

Government revenues buoyant and borrowing sharply down Lawson on target for £3bn tax cuts

STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

PSBR at lowest for 17 years

Planned expenditure for 1988/89 is up £2.5 billion at £156.75 billion. Total tax revenues for 1987/88 are projected to exceed the budget forecast by £2.5 billion. PSBR for 1987/88 is £1 billion, or 0.25 per cent of GDP — the lowest for 17 years, without privatisation proceeds. The budget forecast £4 billion, or 1 per cent, of GDP. Public spending as a proportion of PSBR is projected to fall from 47 per cent in 1982/83 to 42.5 per cent this year and 41.25 per cent by 1990/91, the lowest since 1972/73.

£1.3bn for education

The education budget receives £1.3 billion extra in 1988/89. This will include planned local authority spending rising by £1,020 million, or 7.9 per cent; capital spending on schools and colleges increasing by £100 million or 22 per cent. There will be £115 million extra for universities and £47 million more for science.

Social Security

The department receives an extra £1 billion in 1988/89, rising to £1.9 billion extra in 1989/90.

Balance of payments

A deficit of some £2.5 billion in 1987/88, or 0.5 per cent of GDP (as per the budget), rising to £3.5 billion in 1988/89, or 0.75 per cent of GDP.

4 per cent 87/88 growth forecast

The growth forecast for 1987/88 is 4 per cent. The budget forecast was 3 per cent. The growth forecast 1988/89 is 2.5 per cent — 3 per cent excluding North Sea oil. The inflation forecast is 4 per cent for the fourth quarter of 1987/88 and 4.5 per cent in the 1988/89 fourth quarter.

Defence allocation

The armed forces have been allocated a further £230 million in 1988/89. There will be an extra £490 million in 1989/90.

NI rates unchanged

Class 1 rates will be unchanged at 9 per cent for employees and 10.45 per cent for employers. The Lower Earnings Limit increases next April to £41 a week, and the Upper Earnings Limit rises to £305 a week. Limits for reduced rate bands are also increased.

Business investment

Business investment is forecast up 5.5 per cent in 1988/89. Reserves are forecast at £3.5 billion in 1988/89, rising to £7 billion in 1989/90 and to £10.5 billion in 1990/91.

More urban resources

There will be nearly £400 million extra housing investment in 1988/89. The urban development corporations will get £85 million more next year.

Water rates are to rise 'significantly'

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

Households face an increase in water rates next year that the Environment Secretary, Mr Nicholas Ridley, yesterday conceded will be more than the rate of inflation.

He held out no hope that charges would not rise significantly in 1989 and 1990 as well, blaming the water authorities' "massive need for spending".

Mr Ridley said the spending was not for new investment but to replace underground pipes and reach new, higher standards of water purity enjoined on the United Kingdom by the European Commission.

The exact amount of the increase will vary between the regions. What the Govern-

ment did yesterday was to set out a general target for the whole water industry expressed as a "negative external financing limit". This means the amount the water authorities are expected to pay back to the Treasury, after having paid for their investment programmes by levying charges on water consumers.

Last year's expenditure plan put the EFL for 1988-89 at £11 million. The new plan increases that to £20 million. The upshot, Mr Ridley said, would be "a small increase in real prices".

"If Parliament persists in insisting on ever higher standards of water purity it will cost a great deal of money," he said.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, left MPs convinced last night that he is on target for tax cuts next spring.

These would include reductions in higher-rate taxes. He was delivering an autumn statement which showed tax revenues buoyant, government spending coming down as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product, and government borrowing sharply reduced.

Mr Lawson gave no explicit sign of whether he expected to be able to cut taxes in the Budget, but independent economists believe that he has kept spending increases to a level where he has preserved most of his room for manoeuvre. Mr Stephen Bell, chief economist of Morgan Grenfell, said yesterday: "We think he must be aiming at least £3 billion in tax cuts."

Mr Lawson said later that the main factor in determining whether it would be prudent to make the tax cuts would be America's resolution in tackling its Budget deficit, which would also be the crucial factor in the world economy over the next few months.

The Chancellor wants action from America by November 20. He said he wanted to see a reduction of more than the £23 billion provided for in the Gramm-Rudman Act.

He also indicated that the question mark is as much over President Reagan's leadership as it is over purely economic judgements, telling reporters at Westminster that it was not only an economic issue, but a political one.

He suggested that Britain's growth rate should not suffer too badly from any recessionary downturn in America because the crucial question was that of confidence. In Britain, there was confidence that the political leadership could deal with difficult economic issues.

Mr Lawson made it plain that he would not deliberately increase government borrowing to correct any pressures on Britain's growth rate.

Tory MPs believe that a downturn in growth would not necessarily put at risk the hoped-for tax cuts, because the Chancellor may prefer to use such cuts to stimulate the economy rather than increase government spending and borrowing in a Keynesian intervention.

The Chancellor, in confident mood, told MPs that spending totals for 1988-89 had been relaxed from their original targets. Public spend-

By Robin Oakley and Rodney Lord

ing would be increased by £2.5 billion next year to £156.8 billion, and there would be another £5.5 billion increase from original plans the year after to £167.1 billion. Three years ahead, in 1990-91, it would be fixed at £176.1 billion, he said.

The National Health Service will get an extra £700 million and there is more money for the Home Office for an extensive increase in the prison building programme. Local authority provision for education has been increased and there will be specific increases for science, for universities and for school building.

The total allowed for social security has been increased by £1 billion to allow for an expected higher take-up of benefits over the next year. Allowing for inflation, the £230 million increase in defence spending represents a small cut for the MoD.

Most of the £1 billion increase in planned capital expenditure for the public

Parliament 4
Reaction 5
Tim Congdon 16
Leading article 17

sector will go on large-scale investment programmes for the water and electricity industries, which are in the pipeline for privatization.

There will be an extra £400 million for housing, much of it to go to renovation and to housing associations to help increase the number of home owners.

The Chancellor, in jaunty form, was cheered when he revealed that total tax revenues for the current year are likely to be £2.5 billion higher than he forecast in the Budget in March, reflecting a growth rate 1 per cent higher than the 3 per cent he had indicated then.

He announced larger than expected reserves for the next three years at £3.5 billion in 1988-89, £7 billion in 1989-90 and £10.5 billion in 1990-91.

Government borrowing this year is expected to be only £1 billion compared with the forecast of £4 billion — its lowest level, even excluding proceeds from privatization, for 17 years. The strength of public finances enhances the prospects for tax cuts.

As the economy grows, public spending is expected to fall from its present level of 42½ per cent of national income to 41½ per cent by 1990-91. This fulfils the aim which Cabinet set itself in July of planning so that public spending should go on falling as a proportion of the economy.

Growth is forecast to slow down from 4 per cent this year to 2.5 per cent next year, which because of the gradual decline of North Sea oil output, implies growth of 3 per cent in the non-oil economy.

Because there are relatively few jobs in the capital-intensive North Sea oil industry, this will be enough to keep unemployment falling.

Inflation will rise slightly next year to about 4.5 per cent by the final quarter compared with 4 per cent in the final quarter of this year, but by then it should again be on a downward path, said the Chancellor. The balance of payments is also expected to deteriorate, with a current account deficit of £2.5 billion this year turning into one of £3.5 billion next.

Following the usual annual review of national insurance contributions, the lower earnings limit will rise next year from £39 a week to £41, and the upper earnings limit from £295 to £305. Earnings limits for the reduced rate brackets will be £70, £105 and £155.

Mr Lawson said that the substantial reduction in public borrowing had made more room for spending programmes by reducing the burden of debt interest. He said: "The strength of the British economy, and of our public finances, puts us in the best possible position to weather any storm."

Jubilant among Tory MPs over Mr Lawson's address spilled over at a meeting of the Conservative backbench finance committee last night into a stream of compliments for the Chancellor. He was congratulated on his presentation and performance by all sectors of the party, including Mr Terence Higgins, Mr Gerry Neale and Mr William Powell.

However, Mr John Smith, Labour's Shadow Chancellor, condemned the policy statement as a "confidence trick", saying that most of the increases in departmental spending totals did no more than allow for inflation at a time when spending needed to be increased.

There was a major shortfall in the Health Service, he said, because more was needed to cope with the growing number of old people and the particular inflation in medical costs.

Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal spokesman, said that Mr Lawson's forecast "might go down with the weather forecast the night before the hurricane".

The statement was well received in the City.



Mr Nigel Lawson on his way to the Commons yesterday (Photograph: Alan Weller).

Recession fears send shares plunging in London and US

By Our City Staff

Fears that the falling dollar would provoke a world recession sent shares plunging in London and New York yesterday. Wall Street was also hit by news that President Reagan and Democrat congressional leaders are still far apart on a budget agreement.

With the dollar down more than a cent against the pound at one stage and hitting a 40-year low against the yen, the Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 100 points before steadying at 1,943.97, down 70.12 near the close.

The FT-SE 100 share index closed 69.8 points off at 1,653.9 in spite of the announcement of a record underlying gain of \$6.7 billion (£3.85 billion) in official reserves.

The rise in the reserves to

\$41.4 billion, the highest ever, reflected heavy intervention by the Bank of England last month to hold sterling down.

The reserves were also boosted by about \$1.5 billion as a result of payment in dollars by the US, Canadian and Japanese underwriters to the BP share sale.

In New York, traders said the heavy share selling reflected the bearish psychology that has gripped the market for more than two weeks, but was masked in the past five days, 220 point rally. The market was on the deficit side all day as investors displayed some discomfort with the weak dollar and the weak London equities market. Declines led advances by six to one on heavy volume of nearly 200 million shares.

The dollar recovered some ground in Europe after it avoided falling decisively through the DM1.70 support level.

In London the pound gained 20 cents, closing at 1.7410. The dollar closed at 1.7135 marks after 1.7098 at the opening and 1.7115 last night. It touched briefly a 1.6995 mark historic low in early trading. The dollar closed at Y137.27 after Y136.60 at the opening and Y137 at the previous close. It also hit an historic low against the yen during the session at Y135.95.

Meanwhile, sterling ended three basis points higher on its trade-weighted index, at 74.9.

Details, page 25
World markets, page 26

Electricity prices set to rise by 8-9%

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Electricity consumers face price rises of 8 to 9 per cent from next April.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Energy, faced Opposition protests when he told the Commons that the increases would flow from the more challenging financial targets the Government is setting the industry.

He was accused of imposing the increases to prepare the industry for its planned privatization.

Increases will also be needed in the following year, but they will be "substantially less", Mr Parkinson said.

The new targets arise from the £40 billion investment programme, involving 10 new power stations, on which the industry is about to embark. It was needed to meet the threat of a failure of supply in the years ahead, the minister said.

Mr Parkinson told MPs that when new capacity had to be built to meet additional demand, the costs of meeting that demand rose and it must be right that the rate of expected return should rise.

The Government's present target for the industry of a 2.75 per cent average return is being increased to 3.75 per

cent in 1988-89 and 4.75 per cent in 1989-90.

Although Mr Parkinson's announcement received support from most Conservative MPs who responded to it in the Commons, it was clear last night that many of them are unhappy at the size of the expected rises.

Mr Robert McCrindle, the senior Tory backbencher, said the projected increase was a cause for concern because of its effect on the low paid and those on social benefits.

Mr John Prescott, Labour's energy spokesman, said it was an obvious move to "fatten

up" the electricity industry in advance of privatization.

Earlier, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, had clashed angrily with the Prime Minister over the increase.

Mr Kinnock said that the industry's own plan for development till the end of the century showed it could meet its obligations for supply and production without substantial price increases.

The only reason for changing the targets, Mr Kinnock said, was to ensure that privatization was an even bigger give-away.

French arms boat seizure

Thatcher claims IRA link

By Richard Ford in London, Kerry Gill in Glasgow, John Cooney in Dublin and Philip Jacobson in Belfast

The Prime Minister firmly linked the seizure of 150 tonnes of arms, ammunition and explosives on board a booby-trapped trawler off the French coast with the Provisional IRA terrorist campaign as it was learnt yesterday that the master of the ship had taken delivery of two other vessels earlier this year.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was making the Government's first public comment on the massive arms haul discovered on board the Panamanian-registered Eksund and the detention of five men with Irish passports as they donned frogmen's suits and prepared to launch a rubber dinghy off the coast of Finistere five days ago.

She praised the French authorities for capturing the vessel as it entered their territorial waters. She said their success had saved many lives in Northern Ireland.

Where the Provisional IRA have been increasingly anxious to replenish their supply of weapons and ammunition after a run of successes by the security forces.

With the five men still being questioned by the French authorities about the cargo of machine guns, mortars, rifles, grenades and ammunition suspected of being supplied by Libya, the Prime Minister was asked at Question Time to send a message of appreciation to the French agencies about the seizure.

She said: "I am sure that this House will wish to join in congratulating the French authorities in the successful seizure of a large shipment. Their success has undoubtedly saved many lives in Northern Ireland and elsewhere."

Photograph 2

Her comment that lives in the province and elsewhere had been saved gave some credence to the theory that the armaments may have been destined for a number of other terrorist organizations as well as militant Republican terrorists operating in Ireland.

It emerged yesterday that Mr Adrian Hopkins, the master of the Eksund, arranged for a former oil-rig standby vessel, the 120-ft The Villa, to be

Continued on page 24, col 7

Second arms pact agreed for 1988

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mr Viktor Karpov, the leading Soviet arms control expert, disclosed yesterday that the two superpowers have agreed to sign a second agreement cutting strategic nuclear weapons by 50 per cent at a fourth summit to be held in Moscow in the first half of 1988.

His surprise announcement of the agreement in principle

Sput to diehards 8

for Mr Gorbachev and President Reagan to sign a second arms control pact was made in an interview Mr Karpov gave to Tass outlining details of plans for the third summit, due to open in Washington on December 7.

Describing the outcome of the latest talks in Washington by Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Karpov said: "An understanding was reached that the Washington meeting will complete the agreement on

eliminating medium-range and shorter-range missiles and outline the basis for an agreement for a 50 per cent cut in strategic offensive arms, on condition of non-use of the right to withdraw from the (1972) Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in the course of an agreed period.

"The next Moscow meeting, which is scheduled for the first half of 1988, will sum up that work; a Soviet-American agreement on a 50 per cent cut in strategic offensive arms is to be signed at it."

The decision in principle to sign the treaty under such conditions is claimed by Soviet sources to be the main reason why the Kremlin changed its initial reluctance to take part in the third Washington summit.

On the crucial issue of Star Wars, Mr Karpov stated: "As far as the US Strategic Defence

Continued on page 24, col 1

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● There is £2,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner yesterday.
● Portfolio list, page 31.

INDEX

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Home News | 2-7 |
| Overseas | 8,10-12 |
| Business | 25-31 |
| Sport | 44-49 |
| Arts | 21 |
| Births, deaths, marriages | 19 |
| Chess | 2 |
| City Diary | 27 |
| Court | 18 |
| Crème de la Crème | 35-38 |
| Crosswords | 14,24 |
| Diary | 16 |
| Entertainments | 22 |
| Features | 14,16,20 |
| Information | 22 |
| Law Report | 44 |
| Leading articles | 17 |
| Letters | 32-34 |
| Media | 18 |
| Obituary | 4 |
| Parliament | 39-43 |
| Property | 3 |
| Sale room | 18 |
| Science | 23 |
| TV & Radio | 24 |
| Weather | 18 |
| Wits | 18 |

1500

Janitor 'saw blood on police cell walls' after bomb arrests

By Stewart Tindler, Crime Reporter

Blood was found on the walls and door of a Lancashire police cell after five suspects in the Birmingham public house bombings were questioned, a police janitor told the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

Mr William Bailey, the first witness in the appeal of six men given life sentences after IRA bombs killed 21 people in Birmingham 13 years ago, said he was a cleaning supervisor at the Morecambe police station where five of the accused were taken after their arrest.

He said he was taken down to the cells by a police sergeant after the prisoners had been held there. He said: "I saw this blood and I had not seen anything like it before during my five years cleaning the cells out. I did not comment on it. I never concerned myself with police business."

Mr Bailey started giving evidence after a request for a retrial was turned down by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, and two other appeal judges.

Mr Michael Mansfield, for two of the appellants, had urged the court to order a retrial, pointing to three areas of fact which had not been put to the original jury.

He said there were doubts about scientific evidence, he noted a police schedule involving the questioning of one of the accused, Patrick Hill, had been discovered only this year and suggested that a senior detective had been prepared to "fabricate" a point.

The two central issues of the case — the nature of the scientific evidence and the

treatment of the appellants — would not be affected by the gap since the original trial.

"Thirteen years have not tarnished the ability of people to remember what happened in various police stations at the time. The material is still ripe for jury trial", he said.

Mr Mansfield said that since the trial in 1975, there was evidence that the Greiss test, used to discover if the appellants had handled nitro glycerine, could produce a positive response not only from nitroglycerine but also from the handling of playing cards. The question was how the test had been administered.

Mr Mansfield told the court of evidence which was available from a former woman police cadet.

She had been on duty after the bombings at a police station where a number of the arrested men were taken. She said in a statement: "The men who were leading the prisoners spoke very curiously to them". The prisoners were treated roughly, being pushed or pulled along.

In her statement, read out by Mr Mansfield, she said she was surprised to hear a number of the prisoners called "Irish bastards" or "murdering bastards". "This was used as a prefix or suffix to an order, such as, 'Move over there, you murdering bastards'."

She was taken down to the cells to see the prisoners by a station sergeant, who told her she should take "a good look at these murdering bastards. These are the ones who killed those young people".

She said her own station

sergeant was normally a mild-mannered man, but when he checked the prisoners he would slam the hatch on the cell doors loudly. She said there was considerable tension and anger at the station.

Earlier, Lord Gifford, QC, for two other appellants, told the court that there were a number of criticisms of the way Mr Justice Bridge had handled the original trial.

Lord Gifford said the judge, now Lord Bridge, had told the jury "quite candidly what his view was of the appellants' guilt". He had "argued like an advocate for that view in the course of his remarks during the summing up".

The judge had accepted an adversarial role and went out of his way to praise Dr Frank Skuse, the forensic scientist whose evidence is being challenged.

Lord Gifford said the judge had failed to place enough stress on the fact that the jury should consider each case separately.

Among the other grounds for appeal, Lord Gifford said, was the fact that statements gathered in an inquiry by Devon and Cornwall police had never been disclosed to the defence, and were believed to have been destroyed. That was a potential injustice as the statements might have helped the defence.

Hearsay evidence on the men's political views had also been put before the jury and that should never have happened. Lord Gifford said the material brought a considerable amount of prejudice into the case.

The hearing continues today.

New Lord Chancellor urges end to restraints

'Judges should be permitted to speak out'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The new Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, said yesterday that the rules which prohibit judges from speaking out in public should be abolished.

"These are people appointed by the Queen to dispense justice and I believe they should be allowed to decide for themselves what they should do", he said.

The rules drawn up by a former Lord Chancellor, Lord Kilmuir, have been strongly criticized in recent months, in particular by Judge Picken, a circuit judge who has consistently defied them.

Neither Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, nor Lord Havers, the two previous Lord Chancellors, suggested abolishing the rules.

Yesterday Lord Mackay, who made clear he intended to practise what he preached in speaking to the press himself, said in his first interview since succeeding to the Woolack that he did not wish to lay down "rigid or detailed rules".

"Judges should be free to speak to the press, or television, subject to being able to do so without in any way prejudicing their performing of their judicial work."

In response to fears from senior judges that the executive was encroaching on judges, he said that his job was to "serve the judges" and protect their independence.

"It is not the business of the Government to tell the judges what to do", he said.

Without saying whether solicitors should be eligible for the High Court bench, Lord Mackay hinted that he would consider more solicitor circuit judges. He will be studying the pool from which they are drawn to "see if we get the best people for the job".

Lord Mackay, aged 60, the first lawyer from the Scottish Bar to become Lord Chancellor, also put the family

court high on his list of priorities. He said it should perhaps be linked with reform of child care law.

Some form of family court was "very important", to ensure the best "judicial arrangements for dealing with family matters".

The huge variety of complicated jurisdictions on child care matters "also needed rationalizing. I think it is highly likely that some economical reform can be made to gather these jurisdictions into one place."

"It goes a good deal deeper than a family court. It might be that child care law should be linked with a review of the law on wardship jurisdiction to try to bring some kind of coherence", he said. "The system is there to serve the children."

Lord Mackay also said he wanted to improve judges' conditions and bring in modern technology to improve running of the courts.

He is visiting the Royal Courts of Justice this week. Its buildings looked very grand but "the deeper you go inside, the more disappointed you are at the standards provided for our judges and litigants to work in".

He ruled out any extension to a judge's working day, as has been proposed by his officials. "Judges are under quite considerable pressure". A high level of concentration for a long period of time was required.

Judges gave a very good service. He had come across businessmen on "quite considerable remuneration" who were not required to concentrate to that extent, he said.

Lord Mackay hoped the Bar and Law Society could agree on rights of audience. On the civil justice reforms, he did not say if he favoured merging the High Court and County court.



Lord Mackay of Clashfern in the Lord Chancellor's office (Photograph: Graham Wood).

Alcohol 'safe in pregnancy'

By Kerry Gill

Moderate amounts of alcohol consumed by women during pregnancy will not harm their babies, according to Dr Moira Plant, of Edinburgh University's alcohol research group.

Dr Plant, who is to have a paper on drinking and pregnancy published shortly by the World Health Organization, was speaking yesterday after a seminar on alcohol, tobacco, and drug problems at the

Royal College of Physicians. She said that pregnant women had been advised to abstain totally but it was now clear that moderate drinking was safe.

"There is no evidence that that level of drinking is harmful and in our culture it is really quite difficult to say no all the time", she said.

"You have to be very

careful and clarify what you mean by moderate drinking, so it is wisest to say one or two units, once or twice a week. The greatest risk to pregnant women, apart from smoking or other drugs, was due to "binge drinking".

Dr Plant said there had been "a certain amount of hysteria" caused over drinking during pregnancy, particularly in the United States.

Women at the top swap notes

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Success in business and industry is bringing more than 300 women from 17 countries to Brighton today for the start of a three-day conference that will highlight the impact women are making at senior level throughout the world.

As well as company managers, there will be women with senior positions in trade unions, teaching, local government, consultancy and training.

The theme of this year's conference, organized by the European Women's Management Development Network, is "Working together: developing effective partnerships". Among the dozens of topics they will be discussing are the problems women have in balancing home and work, industry's role in the community, "making equal opportunities happen", harnessing women's talent, working relationships, and the question of who makes the better boss, man or woman.

It is the first time in its three-year history that the network has met in Britain. Previous meetings have been in Brussels, Hamburg and Milan.

This year's president, Miss Valerie Hammond, director of research at Ashridge Management College at Birkhamstead, Hertfordshire, explained that the women's organization was born out of a male-dominated body which is now a close ally.

"Once the European Community got under way it became quite clear that women managers all over the Continent faced similar problems, but used different approaches to solve them."

"It seemed logical to form our own organization aimed at a wide exchange of ideas, ideas that would help us manage the great changes that are going on, and help to break down divisions and explore new roles and new solutions."

One of the speakers is Miss Mary Rogers, joint chief executive of Greater London Enterprise. She said the conference provided a "very rich mixture" of women from all sections of society.

"There are several fast-growing similar organizations for women with different aims, some aimed at helping women achieve their potential, others involved in training or promoting women", Miss Rogers said.

"The EWMD has delegates from commerce, industry, business, trade unions and local and national government. All this exchange of views and ideas is very important these days as more and more women get into important positions."



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Children in court

Witness screens approved

By David Saped

The Home Office yesterday approved courtroom screens to shield victims giving evidence in child abuse cases following prison sentences totalling 33 years on three men belonging to a "sordid circle" of child molesters.

Judge Thomas Pigot, QC, the Common Serjeant of London, said the sentences passed on two brothers and a third man, one of whom is the stepfather of four of the children, reflected society's abhorrence at the "nauseating and harrowing" crimes against five children aged between seven and 13.

The trial made legal history when the youngsters were allowed to give evidence behind a screen to prevent them having to confront their

attacker. Judge Pigot had asked the jury if it had been inconvenienced by the screens and the jury foreman replied: "Absolutely not. It has been very successful."

The Home Office said last night that until children are enabled by law to give evidence in abuse cases by means of a video link, the use of screens would be encouraged. "We are prepared to support any measure which enables the perpetrators of such offences to be brought to justice."

Judge Pigot said the experiment had worked extraordinarily well in a case which represented "an appalling catalogue of systematic sex abuse."

He added: "It is generally

recognized that these are sometimes extremely difficult to detect. Children are often too embarrassed or fearful to recount what happens to them."

Prison sentences totalling 12 years were passed on each of the two brothers and the third man was jailed for nine years. A fourth man, a 33-year-old father of two, was given a two-year suspended sentence. The judge accepted he had been drawn into the sex circle after the death of his wife.

The court had heard that one of three men imprisoned, the father of the fifth and youngest victim, had offered her to the widower to sexually abuse when she was only seven years old.

in sex abuse that was otherwise lacking in their lives. She said: "Dr Wignarajah has seen some children who have been sexually abused. I think he felt it was the opposite of damaging for them. He said he thought the experience probably enriched the lives of the children he had seen."

Mrs Bacon told the inquiry at Middlesbrough town hall that she and other colleagues were loath to refer suspected sex abuse victims to the psychiatrists because of their views.

Miss Deborah Glassbrook, manager of a Child Resource Centre at Middlesbrough General Hospital, said Dr Wignarajah also told her that he believed sexual abuse could be seen in a positive light. She believed he based his views on a national opinion poll published by a research organization.

Two psychiatrists believe that sexual abuse does not damage children and can even enrich their lives, it was said yesterday.

Mrs Heather Bacon, a clinical psychologist, broke down in tears as she relayed the views of the psychiatrists to the judicial inquiry into Cleveland's child sexual abuse crisis.

The psychiatrists are based at North Tees General Hospital. Dr Sandy Chisholm dealt with cases to the north of the Tees and Dr Selladurai Wignarajah with those to the south. They will be giving evidence to the inquiry at a later date.

Mrs Bacon said Dr Wignarajah had told her that abuse had "probably enriched the lives of the children he had seen". She alleged that Dr Chisholm felt it was not harmful.

She said in the witness box:

Eastern promise fulfilled

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

A record price for a Chinese dinner service made for export was paid at Sotheby's yesterday.

The service, an impressive ensemble decorated with the "tobacco leaf" pattern, and including 20 dinner plates and dishes by the dozen, was bought for £209,000 by Marlborough Fine Art, acting on behalf of a client.

The most attractive items came during the afternoon at the sale of the remainder of the Hervouet Collection, the first half having been sold in Monaco last June.

During the eighteenth century up to 150,000 pieces of porcelain were exported from China. Designs sent out from the West were reinterpreted by artists in the East, then shipped back to Europe.

The Nantes-based collectors Francois and Nicole Hervouet, fascinated by this cultural transposition, which often made for amusing confusions and misinterpretations, compiled a fascinating collection.

They also wrote a book on the subject.

The top price paid yesterday was £2,000 (estimate up to £12,000) for a rare Qianlong punch bowl showing a golfer full back-swing. A rare Qianlong Portuguese market dish showing an equestrian statue of Joseph I of Portugal fetched £17,600, selling to a private collector.

One of a number of *risque* dishes, picturing an old man leering as he throws coins into

SALEROOM

the lap of a bare-breasted courtesan, sold for £2,860. After a successful day, takings were £1.3 million, with only 2.5 per cent bought in.

At Sotheby's New York on Monday, a David Hockney photo-collage likely to fade away within a generation fetched \$29,700 (£16,779). The 1982 collage, showing the artist's hotel room in fragmented form, was made from Kodachrome prints during his

photographic phase and exceeded its upper estimate by \$7,000.

Kodak said yesterday that one could expect "measurable change within 10 to 15 years" for such prints.

In general, the photography sale went well, achieving a total of \$909,975 (£514,110), with 14 per cent unsold.

Top prices were mainly for lots containing multiple images, such as the group of 546 plates including images by Julia Margaret Cameron, Edward Steichen and Alfred Stieglitz.

They were from the magazine *Camera Work*, of which Stieglitz was editor and publisher. This fetched \$35,200 (£19,887) — some \$5,000 less than expected.

Top lots at both Phillips's nineteenth century sculpture and Bonhams's objects of art sales were for nineteenth century French sculpture. A pair of nineteenth century bronze figures signed E. Guillemin, sold for £17,600 at Phillips.

November 3 1987

PARLIAMENT

Public sector borrowing requirement lowest for 17 years, Chancellor tells MPs

Labour
call for
interest
rate cutMore cash for schools,
the NHS and housing

There would be extra money for the NHS, schools and universities and housing next year, even though the proportion of public spending as a whole was growing more slowly, the Chancellor told MPs in his autumn statement.

He said that the public sector borrowing requirement was the lowest for 17 years.

He looked forward to a continuation of steady growth and low inflation and, in a reference to the falls in international stock markets, said that the strength of the economy put Britain in the best position to weather any storm.

Mr Nigel Lawson said that his autumn statement, as usual, contained first, the Government's outline public expenditure plans for the next three years and the expected outcome for this year; second, proposals for national insurance contributions next year; and third, the forecast of economic prospects for 1988 required by the Industry Act, 1975.

The forecast, of course, took into account the likely effect of the recent worldwide falls in equity markets.

He would turn first to the expected outcome for this financial year, 1987-88. The public expenditure planning total now looked likely to amount to £147.5 billion, or about £1 billion less than was allowed for in last year's public expenditure White Paper.

The main reason for this shortfall was higher capital receipts by local authorities and new towns. Total spending on programmes, apart from this, was expected to be broadly in line with plans.

Taking account of miscellaneous items not included in the planning total, the net shortfall on the expenditure side was likely to be slightly in excess of £500 million.

On the receipts side, total tax revenues were likely to exceed the Budget forecast by almost £2.5 billion. This buoyancy reflected higher-than-forecast economic growth, greater than expected profitability and an oil price above the \$15 a barrel assumed at the time of the Budget.

At that time, he had set a PSBR requirement for 1987-88 of £4 billion, or 1 per cent of

GDP. As a result of higher tax revenues and lower spending, he now expected the PSBR for the current financial year to be only £1 billion, or 0.25 per cent of GDP (Conservative cheers). This was the third successive year of significant undershoot.

Privatization proceeds had, of course, made an important contribution to this year's low PSBR. But even if there had been no privatization proceeds at all, it would still be the lowest PSBR for 17 years (Conservative cheers).

He turned now to the public expenditure plans for the next three years. Since 1982-83, public spending, both including and excluding privatization proceeds, had been declining as a proportion of national income.

There was likely to be a further substantial reduction this year, which would make this the longest sustained fall in public expenditure as a proportion of national income since the early 1950s.

In July, the Cabinet had reaffirmed the objective of ensuring that public spending as a share of national income continued to fall and did not exceed the ratios published in the last White Paper. The plans he was about to announce secured that objective.

New planning totals had been set at £156.75 billion for 1988-89 and £167 billion for 1989-90, increases of £2.5 billion and £5.5 billion respectively over the totals previously published.

For 1990-91, the planning total had been set at £176 billion. For the later years, he had judged it prudent to set aside larger reserves within the planning totals than he had done previously.

The reserves would therefore rise to £3.5 billion in 1988-89 to £7 billion in 1989-90 and £10.5 billion in 1990-91 (Labour laughter).

The planning totals also incorporated an estimate of the proceeds of privatization of £5 billion a year - unchanged from the last White Paper.

These plans, excluding privatization proceeds, meant public spending would continue to fall as a share of national income.

From nearly 47 per cent in 1982-83, it had come down to around 42.5 per cent this year. By 1990-91, it would be down to 41.25 per cent, the lowest since 1972-73. The new proportions were lower for each year than those published in the last White Paper.

TREASURY

This progress was founded upon the Government's success of reining back the rate of growth of public spending. In the 1960s and 1970s, public spending had grown by around 3 per cent a year, in real terms.

In the Conservatives' first Parliament between 1979 and 1983, the share of national income was 2.25 per cent. Between 1983 and 1987, it had been just under 1.75 per cent.

In the succeeding four years - meaning the current year plus the three years now under survey - the real growth of public spending was planned to be 1.25 per cent per year, well within the prospects of growth of the economy as a whole.

While public spending as a whole was growing more slowly, the substantial reduction in public borrowing had made more room for programme spending by reducing the burden of debt interest payments (Conservative cheers).

Coupled with the state of economic growth, that had enabled the Government to provide additional resources for priority services.

On health, there would be an extra £700 million for the NHS in England in 1988-89 and an extra £800 million in 1989-90 (Conservative cheers).

On top of that, the NHS would benefit from cost improvement programmes and land sales (Labour protests). These things would enable the NHS to improve services.

Law and Order: there would be the substantial increase and acceleration in the prison building programme, which the Home Secretary (Mr Douglas Hurd) had announced in July.

This would provide an extra 4,200 extra places by 1993. Provision for local authority spending on the police had also been increased significantly.

Education: There had been substantial provision for local authority current spending. In addition, an extra £50 million a year had been provided for the improvement of school buildings.

Spending on the universities would be increased by £115 million in 1988-89 and by £130 million in 1989-90. There would be an additional £45 million for science in 1988-89 and an extra £65 million in 1989-90.

Gross provision for housing investment was being increased

by nearly £400 million next year.

"This will not only sustain the rising trend of spending on local authority renovation, but will also provide additional resources for housing associations, much of it to be used in conjunction with private finance" (Conservative cheers).

Provision for urban development corporations was being increased by £25 million next year, to help to tackle problems of the inner cities.

Social security: There would be substantial increases in social security spending, which had been increased by £1 billion for 1988-89 and £1.9 billion for 1989-90.

"This is partly because the take-up of benefits is likely to be higher than was previously envisaged. It also takes account of the uprating of benefits announced last week, including the cost of compensating income-support claimants for their average contribution to rates."

Defence: Spending is to be increased by £230 million in 1988-89 and £490 million in 1989-90.

"The additions to planned capital expenditure, for the public sector as a whole, will amount to some £1 billion in each of the next two years."

"About half of this is for the nationalized industries, principally for the large-scale investment programmes of the electricity and water industries (Opposition interruptions)."

"Full details, together with information on running costs and manpower will be given in the public expenditure White Paper early in the New Year."

Turning to national insurance contributions, he said that the Government had conducted the usual autumn review of contributions in the light of advice from the Government Actuary on the prospective income and expenditure of the National Insurance Fund, and taking into account the statement on benefits the Secretary of State for Social Services made on October 27.

"The lower earnings limit will be increased next April to £41 a week, in line with the single person's pension, and the upper earnings limit will be raised to £305 a week. The limits for the reduced rate bands will also be increased."

"The upper limit for the 5 per cent and 7 per cent bands will be raised to £70 a week and £105 a week respectively. The upper limit for the 9 per cent rate for



Mr Nigel Lawson: Many in the United States would wish they had pursued similar policies.

employers will be raised to £155 a week.

"The taxpayer's contribution to the National Insurance Fund - the so-called Treasury supplement - will be reduced from 7 per cent to 5 per cent, but this will not require any change in contribution rates. Thus, the main Class I contribution rates will once again remain unchanged at 9 per cent for employers and 10.45 per cent for employees."

Turning to the Industry Act, Mr Lawson said: "Growth this year looks to be turning out at 4 per cent, compared with the 3 per cent growth I forecast at the time of the Budget. This is well above the trend of the steady upswing which began in 1981, and faster than any other major economy."

"Strong growth in domestic demand has been more than matched by the rapid rise in exports. Manufacturing industry is doing particularly well, with output rising by 5 per cent."

This strong performance has led to a substantial fall in unemployment, which is now more than 400,000 lower than a year ago, the largest annual fall on record. Indeed, unemployment has been falling faster in the UK than in any other major country.

As I forecast at the time of the Budget, inflation in the fourth quarter of this year is likely to be 4 per cent. I also see no need to amend my Budget forecast of a modest current account deficit of some £2.5 billion, or about 0.5 per cent of GDP.

Looking ahead to 1988, the prospect is for a continuation of the steady growth with low inflation that we have now enjoyed for over five years.

The full forecast I am publishing today takes into account the likely implications of the recent falls in world stock markets in so far as it is possible to do so at this early stage. This is clearly a time when economic forecasting is a more than usually hazardous business.

But what is clear is that the strength of the British economy, and of our public finances, puts us in the best position to weather any storm. And that strength will also enable us to play a full part in the international co-operation which is more than ever needed today.

During questioning after his statement, Mr Lawson came in for fierce criticism from the Labour benches, with some Labour MPs calling for a further reduction in interest rates.

But there was widespread praise for the Chancellor from Conservative backbenchers. One said that he would be the envy of finance ministers throughout the developed world.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said the statement showed the sort of confidence trick to be expected from the Chancellor. In the first half of his statement he had boasted how he was reducing public expenditure and in the second half of how he was increasing it.

Did this not come about because the Chancellor had adjusted spending plans by the 1.25 per cent increase in inflation, with the result that for every increase in the programme there was no new money above that originally planned to be spent?

In the health service, there was to be a 5.7 per cent increase, but allowing for 4.5 per cent inflation, that meant a 1 per cent increase in cash resources. The National Health Service needed much more money.

The proposed increase of education spending was 4.6 per cent, so that it was effectively frozen in real terms.

Why did the Chancellor, as a member of a Government that was claiming to have a successful economy, feel it appropriate to freeze child benefits? Was the answer not that there would be a £300 million cut in income support, so that the poorest in the community were being specially targeted?

Sir William Clark (Croydon South, C) said: "It all becomes the Opposition to talk down our economy which is one of the strongest in the Western world."

He urged the Chancellor to be sparing in increasing public expenditure. It would be a good idea to have a target of 40 per cent of GDP for public spending because the object of economic policy should be to have at least a nil PSBR, if not a negative one.

Mr Lawson had little doubt that in time a 40 per cent figure would be reached. The proportion of GDP accounted for by public spending was declining, and that would continue. On a zero PSBR, his latest forecast of £1 billion was close to that. Many in the United States would wish they had pursued similar policies.

Children's
'panels'
suggested

Lady Faithfull (C), chairman of the all-party parliamentary group for Children, moved an amendment in the Lords on the seventh day of the committee stage of the Criminal Justice Bill to replace juvenile courts with Scottish-style children's panels.

She said there was a growing view that the juvenile court system is seriously deficient as a way of dealing with juvenile offenders and their parents. The panel system has the advantage of a less formal and legalistic atmosphere, and so was less likely to confuse the youngsters.

She was supported by Lady Elliot of Harwood (C) and Lord Mishcon, an Opposition home affairs spokesman.

However, the Earl of Caithness, Minister of State, Home Office, said he could not accept the proposal while the Government was still considering the introduction of family courts as the two issues were linked.

Labour peers
take seats

Two new Labour peers took their seats in the House of Lords. Lord Mason, the former Secretary of State for Defence and for Northern Ireland, was supported by Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, the former Prime Minister, and Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos.

Lord Dormand of Easington, former chairman of the Labour Party, was supported by Lord Glenamara and Lord Bottomley.

A dispute over the composition of the House of Commons Select Committee on Defence sounds like one of those abstract issues of interest to parliamentarians only. In this instance it has a much wider significance.

The Committee of Selection is expected to receive today some highly controversial nominations to the defence committee. In the last Parliament Labour was represented on the committee by three multi-lateralists.

This was one of those sensible arrangements that are necessary if select committees are to function effectively. It enabled the committee to receive a great deal of secret information from the British and some allied governments.

Now, having increased its strength in the Commons, the party will have four members on the committee. But the Labour whips want to replace Dr John Gilbert, the most senior of the three multi-lateralists on the old committee, and to nominate two supporters of CND.

These nominations will not

Parkinson announces rise in electricity price

Electricity prices are to be increased by between 8 and 9 per cent from next April, MPs were told in a statement. The extra revenue raised was to help finance increased capital investment.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, said:

He said that there were to be 10 new power stations built, six of which would be pressurized water reactors and four would be coal fired.

The Opposition condemned the increase and claimed that the rise was to make the industry more attractive prior to privatization.

Mr Parkinson said: It has been the policy of successive Governments to agree targets for the nationalized industries which set their financial framework and which enable them to plan their operations in a commercial manner. The industries then decide how to achieve these targets either through price increases, cost savings or a combination of both.

programme of new power stations.

Mr Parkinson said it was obvious that the only reason for changing the industry's targets was to ensure that privatization was an even bigger give-away.

"That might be very sweet for those who buy electricity shares, but it will be very sour for those who have to buy their electricity."

Mrs Thatcher said that this year the electricity industry planned to achieve a commercial cost rate of return of just under 2.5 per cent.

That was not adequate to fund the investment programmes and the rate would have to be increased.

benchers will insist on a debate in which the House will be asked to refer the matter back to the Committee of Selection. There is even the possibility of a deadlock with the Labour Party blocking nominations to all select committees until it has its way on this specific question.

That might not worry the Government too much because most ministers tend to find the inquisitorial activities of these committees time-consuming and tiresome. But it would rightly disturb backbenchers of all parties who find select committees a valuable instrument for scrutinizing official policies and actions.

I am sure, however, that Conservative backbenchers would be right to take a stand over these particular nominations on both partisan and parliamentary grounds.

There are really two questions at issue. One is whether it would be wise to bring any CND supporters on to the defence committee. The other

The present target for the electricity supply industry which covers the three years 1985-86 to 1987-88 is a 2.75 per cent average return on current cost assets.

The Government has therefore been discussing with the Electricity Council the targets for the years ahead. Although the details of individual boards' targets have yet to be finalized, it has agreed an overall target for 1988-89 and 1989-90.

The industry's EFL (external financing limit) which was announced by the Chancellor this afternoon is based on this target.

In considering the target for these years, the Government has had to take into account the fact that, although in the recent past the electricity supply industry has had surplus capacity, this position is now changing.

On current forecasts, the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) envisages that at least 13 gigawatts of new capacity will be needed to meet demand by the end of the century.

Furthermore, the industry also needs to modernize its transmission and distribution system if it is to maintain secure and economical supplies into the next century.

At a time of surplus capacity, it is possible to meet extra demand by using that surplus at relatively little extra cost. In the past this has been reflected in a low rate of return. It took account of the fact that some of the industry's assets were under-used. This has resulted in the industry's prices effectively remaining unchanged since April 1985 and in prices falling by at least 15 per cent in real terms over the last five years.

When new capacity has to be built to meet additional demand, the costs of meeting that extra demand rise. It must be right that the rate of return should rise to a level closer to that which nationalized industries are required to earn on new investment as a whole. This is currently 5 per cent.

The Government has therefore agreed that the industry's overall target return on current cost assets should be 3.75 per cent in 1988-89 and 4.75 per cent in 1989-90.

The CEGB and area boards are now considering their individual profit targets. Until this process is completed it will not be possible for the industry to be specific about the consequences for electricity prices. In particular, the Government expects the industry to consider carefully the scope for improving the rate of return through increased cost efficiency.

But preliminary indications are that it will be necessary to increase prices overall by an average of 8 to 9 per cent on April 1 1988 and substantially less in the following year. There is likely to be some variation around these figures for individual boards and different groups of customers.

I am determined that Britain will have a modern, secure and efficient electricity supply industry in the years ahead. This will involve a massive investment programme.

Mr Parkinson: New power stations promised

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Polys win
minister's
praise

The funding of polytechnics next year would be £64.5 million, an increase of 9 per cent on last year, Mr Tony Baldry (Banbury, C) said during Commons questions. Would this not mean that polytechnics could continue to fulfil their role of ensuring that more people had access to higher education?

Mr Robert Jackson, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that it was right to congratulate polytechnics on their achievements. With colleges, they formed the largest sector of higher education and had 300,000 students.

£2,000m costs for school repairs

Mr Robert Dunn, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, confirmed during Commons questions that a survey of schools buildings put the bill for repairs and refurbishment at £2,000 million.

Mr Jack Straw, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said that the Government's spending record on school buildings was confirmed by the school inspectors' (HMI's) report

THE AUTUMN STATEMENT

Higher inflation and less growth, says Treasury

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Treasury's forecast for the economy next year is for slower growth, higher inflation and a bigger balance of payments deficit.

It is likely that the forecast would have been even worse for inflation and the balance of payments had the Treasury not adopted an unusual assumption for the public sector borrowing requirement.

The forecast assumes that the Chancellor will hold the PSBR next year to the expected level of £1 billion for this year.

This year's PSBR is headed for a big undershoot of the original £4 billion target because of the buoyancy of the economy, which has boosted tax revenues and an undershoot in public spending.

The Treasury has produced a forecast which has a smaller current account deficit, and probably lower inflation, than would otherwise be the case by assuming that the Chancellor holds to a £1 billion PSBR next year.

The forecast, which is said to be taken into account the effects of the recent stock market falls, already has higher inflation than previously predicted by the Treasury.

It expects a rate of 4.5 per cent at the end of next year, up

from 4 per cent in the fourth quarter of this year. The rate is expected to go higher, probably to 5 per cent or more, in the first half of next year, before edging down later.

This represents a worse inflation outlook, both for this year and next, than earlier anticipated. The Chancellor had predicted a rate of less than 4 per cent by the end of the year, while the Budget forecast in March was for a rate of 4 per cent by the middle of next year.

Mr Peter Spencer, economist at Credit Suisse First Boston, said that the Chancellor could be expected to increase excise duties by more than inflation in the Budget.

Treasury officials said that the rise in inflation next year was due to higher nationalized industry charges and the assumption of revaluation of excise duties, and that the underlying inflation picture was little changed.

The Treasury expects the economy to grow by 2.5 per cent next year, after 4 per cent this year. Unemployment is expected to continue its decline, in spite of the slowdown, albeit at a slower pace than this year.

This is because the non-oil part of the economy is forecast to grow by a reasonably robust

3 per cent, helped along by a 3.5 per cent rise in domestic demand, after a 4 per cent increase this year.

Treasury officials refused to say what assumptions they had made about the level at which stock markets worldwide would settle. The forecast appears to assume some recovery in equity prices from present levels.

Growth in the Group of Seven countries — the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada — is forecast to slow to 2 per cent next year, from 2.5 per cent this year.

Officials said that none of the Seven was forecast to experience a contraction of economic activity over the period, growth would continue in all the major economies, they said.

With Britain's growth rate of 2.5 per cent next year exceeding the major countries' average of 2 per cent, Britain's balance of payments is forecast to deteriorate.

On the assumption of oil at \$18 a barrel oil price to the end of next year, and stable exchange rates around present levels, the current account deficit is predicted to widen from £2.5 billion this year to £3.5 billion next year.



Bearers of good tidings: Mr Kenneth Baker, education, Mr Paul Channon, roads, Mr Nicholas Ridley, housing, and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Scotland

Health service to find more cash itself

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Health authorities are likely to face increasing pressure on services following yesterday's announcement that funding for hospital and community services will increase by only £700 million next year.

However, authorities will be expected to supplement central funding by cost efficiency programmes and, for the first time, through income generating schemes such as setting up shops on health service premises.

The rise in health service spending from £11,239 million to £11,946 million includes an extra £30 million to fight Aids, £30 million for initiatives to reduce waiting lists and £15 million prin-

cipally to help the London regions.

The £700 million increase is a 6.3 per cent rise over this year's hospital budget but only a 1.7 per cent increase in real terms once inflation is taken into account.

Health authorities will only have about £170 million extra to pay for demographic pressures and technological growth, which the Government has estimated at 1.5 per cent or about £150 million. This will be effectively cut to £65 million when resources for Aids waiting lists and extra help for London regions are taken off.

Ministers made clear yesterday that they would expect health authorities to generate a further £150 million through cost improvement programmes and an extra £10 million

to £20 million through new income generation schemes.

Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services, said that together with resources raised from these two sources, money available for hospital services would increase by 3 per cent in real terms.

He said: "Health authorities are to be encouraged to generate further income from the non-NHS use of hospital services and facilities, such as selling refreshments to visitors, advertising, and sales of surplus equipment".

Mr Tony Newton, the Health Minister, later explained that this would include projects such as setting up shops on hospital premises and selling outdated computer equipment.

Mr Newton, commenting on the size of the increase in spending on hospital services next year against a background of closed wards and cancelled operations in some parts of the country, said: "We think the new money will not only allow health authorities to maintain services but to initiate some new service provision such as funding the breast cancer screening programme".

Earlier this year the National Association of Health Authorities called for a £935 million increase in next year's budget to cover shortfalls in pay and prices estimated at £150 million and to allow for an estimated 5.9 per cent inflation in health service pay and prices.

Mr Moore announced that

spending on the health service budget overall would increase by £1.1 billion to £17.6 billion next year and spending on family practitioner services is due to rise to £4.2 billion next year representing a real increase of 5 per cent or £350 million.

The extra money will mainly be used for implementing the reforms in family doctor services expected to be announced in the next two weeks, which are designed to promote preventative health care.

Mr Moore also announced that spending on personal social services would rise by £100 million next year, in line with increases in local authority current spending, with an extra £10 million in capital allocation.

Sell-off funds for power and water

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government underlined its determination to press ahead with its privatization programme despite the BP fiasco.

It has held to its target of raising £5 billion from the proceeds of privatization in each of the next three years, and it is allowing heavy capital investment in the

electricity and water industries to make them ready for sale to the private sector.

Almost £1 billion is to be spent in the two industries in the next two years on their large-scale investment programmes.

The Chancellor did not spell out the details in his state-

ment. However the £5 billion privatization proceeds for 1988-89 are planned to include the third tranche of British Gas shares, which is expected to raise £1.6 billion; the second tranche of British Airways shares, which is expected to yield £720 million; and the second tranche of BP.

Council sales mean extra cash for homes

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

Extra income from council house sales means a substantial increase in the housing programme while still sticking to Treasury spending guidelines, Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday.

The last public expenditure white paper envisaged that the right to buy would bring in £1,682 million. Current estimates for 1987-88 show that receipts could total £2,501 million.

Receipts have now been scaled up for the next three years. He is not recycling the whole amount in extra spending in housing, nor is he departing from his intention of cutting back the role of councils in building new homes.

However, the planned £384 million increase in spending on housing, to £3,827 million, is a substantial increase in provision for housing capital expenditure, Mr Ridley said.

Education to have an extra £1,303m next year

By John Clare

Spending on education next year will go up by £1,303 million, an increase of nearly 8 per cent on the current year. Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, described it as a "pretty good deal".

The figures include a further £100 million for the next three years for school buildings. Mr Baker said that meant local authorities and voluntary bodies would be able to

spend at least £750 million on the fabric of schools during that period.

However, that is substantially less than the £2,000 million which a report published yesterday by the Department of Education and Science suggested was needed by 1991 to make school buildings acceptable.

The report, based on a survey of 800 schools, said half the money was needed to build extra classrooms — nearly 20 per cent are overcrowded — to provide more

playing fields and to repair roofs, walls and windows.

Most of the rest is for structural alterations, such as subdividing classrooms, necessary to meet new curriculum requirements.

Mr Baker said the expenditure plan allowed for real increases in spending on books and equipment, including equipping schools for the new GCSE courses.

There will also be £65 million over three years for work on the

proposed national curriculum.

Mr Baker is assuming that the number of teachers will drop by 5,300 as secondary school rolls continue to fall.

Universities are to have another £155 million over three years to enable them to retire older academics and recruit more young lecturers.

The science budget is to be increased by £47 million to £696 million, some of it for a new research ship in Antarctica.

The polytechnics and other higher education colleges are to have another £64.5 million, an increase of 9 per cent over the current year.

Professor Sir Mark Richmond, chairman of the vice-chancellors and principals committee, said the sum was "not bad" but added: "We have got to look at the detailed figures when they become available to see how much of the money announced today is new."

Defence spending rise eases cash pressure on equipment

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Defence officials expressed quiet satisfaction last night at the new spending levels announced by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr Lawson is allowing the Ministry of Defence to spend an extra £230 million next year, rising to £490 million in 1989-90 and £600 million in 1990-91.

Whitehall sources indicated that Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, "had done very nicely" in winning the extra money, which should ease pressure on a number of key projects.

Agreement between Mr

Younger and Mr John Major, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, was reached bilaterally without the Cabinet or the Star Chamber of senior ministers being asked to adjudicate. Mr Younger is thought to have pressed for roughly twice the extra sum allocated.

Nevertheless, the defence budget is still projected to continue to fall in real terms in the next two years.

The effect of the latest plans is to cut the reduction in real terms in the period from 1986-87 to 1989-90 from the original 5 per cent to 2.5 per cent. Thereafter, the defence budget

is planned to remain level after allowing for inflation.

In cash terms, the defence budget is now projected to rise from £18,950 million in 1987-88 to £20,560 million in 1989-91.

Defence sources were unable last night to specify precisely how the extra money would be spent.

However, it should ease the intense pressure on the equipment budget. Ministers should have to make less use of the customary tactics of postponing orders and delaying refits to remain within their cash limits.

Scotland gets extra £780m to woo Conservative voters

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

An extra £780 million has been allocated to public spending in Scotland, where the Conservative Party won only 10 seats at the last general election.

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, has won extra cash from the Treasury for his public spending plans, including an increase of 7 per cent to £8,510 million next year.

His programme for industry for 1988-89 has been increased by £24 million, which will be divided between the Scottish Development Agency, the Highlands and Island Devel-

opment Board and for regional assistance.

Public spending in 1988-89 will be £8,510 million, an increase of £400 million on the figure projected in the White Paper published last January. In 1989-90, the figure will be £8,600 million, an increase of £380 million. In 1990-91, the Government plans to spend £8,770 million in Scotland.

Mr Rifkind and ministers at the Scottish Office are aware of the disquiet among Conservatives north of the border at the party's position. The Government has been anxious

to show a continuing commitment to Scotland in the hope that in the long term this will improve the party's electoral fortunes.

The Labour Party is also planning to make life difficult for Scottish Office ministers by pressurizing them in the House of Commons.

Mr Rifkind said last night: "Scotland is continuing to enjoy higher public spending per head than other parts of Great Britain."

Mr Rifkind indicated also that any increases in electricity prices in Scotland should be less than those in England.

Spending on benefits increases

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Spending on social security is to rise to £48.5 billion next year, £1 billion more than the estimate in the White Paper on public expenditure, published last January.

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday that the rise reflected the increase in those claiming benefits, particularly single parents and the disabled.

It reflected also the agreement to raise benefits for those on income support against the cost of their 20 per cent contribution to rates when the new social security reforms come into effect next April.

Mr Moore said that there would be no increase in national insurance contribution rates next year for either employers or employees.

The lower earnings limit is to be raised from £39 to £41 a week, just below the basic retirement pension rate for a single person, while the upper earnings limit is to go up from £295 to £305 per week, equal to 7.5 times the new basic pension rate.

Extra £20m to help cut court delays

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Predicted spending on legal aid and the courts has been boosted by about £20 million a year compared with previous estimates because of the rising workload of the courts.

Revised estimates for 1988/89 are £780 million; for 1989/90, £810 million; and for 1990/91, £860 million. Legal aid accounts for two-thirds of this.

The figures assume an annual rise in the workload of about 6 per cent in the crown courts and 3 per cent in the civil courts, as well as the costs of setting up the new Legal Aid Board.

Overseas land under threat

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office may be forced to sell some of its properties abroad because of 10 per cent budget reductions in real terms for the next two financial years.

Only the BBC External Services gained emerge favourably from the Chancellor's statement, with increased expenditure of £4 million to £8.4 million for next year and £6.5 million to £9.4 million for 1989-90, to allow for higher broadcasting costs.

Six new jails proposed with 4,200 extra places

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Six extra prisons are to be built in England and Wales as part of continuing priority being given by the Government to law and order.

Home Office spending is to go up by £360 million to £6.06 billion in 1988-89, rising to £6.4 billion in 1990-91.

The spending increase will also go to crime prevention, police and the fight against drugs.

The main emphasis last night was being put on jails, with 4,200 extra places and additional spending on prison

building of £59.5 million in 1988-89 to £92 million in 1989-1990.

Mr Hard announced at the Conservative Party conference the provision of the 4,200 places.

He said yesterday: "This Government has embarked on the largest programme of prison building and modernization since the last century. It already has a programme of 20 prisons of which four have now been completed and are open, four are nearing the end of construction, and four more are under construction or about to start."

Mr Hard is determined that new places will be produced faster than ever before with a new Prison Building Board bringing to bear private sector knowledge and expertise.

The present prison building programme is designed to produce more than 10,000 places at new prisons and more than 7,000 at existing establishments by 1995.

The six new prisons announced yesterday will provide 3,600 of the 4,200 new places, with 600 others at existing prisons.

All the additions are due to be ready for use by 1993, with 1,500 places by 1990.

The present building drive contrasts with the record of no purpose-built prison establishments being constructed between 1918 and 1958.

Police establishment increases of 300 for the Metropolitan Police and 500 for provincial police forces are envisaged for 1988-89, as well as additional civilian recruitment.

These increases were forecasted in Mr Hard's police manpower announcement on May 20 1986. There is provision for total police strength to rise to 125,113 and for civilian strength to rise to 47,722 by March 1989, compared with averages for 1987-

88 of 123,275 and 46,631. Provision for the police is increased by £240 million in 1988-89 and by £280 million in 1989-90.

Crime Prevention The provision includes the new national organization for crime prevention which the Home Secretary announced on September 1.

Drugs Total increased provision for the fight against drugs is £3 million in 1988-89 and a similar amount in 1989-90. Part of the money will go to increase the effectiveness of the National Drugs Intelligence Unit.

Road spending below target

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Local authorities are expected to spend £140 million less than they have been allocated for road maintenance even though local roads are continuing to deteriorate.

This was disclosed yesterday by Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, when commenting on the Chancellor's Autumn statement.

Mr Channon said: "I am stuffing money down their throats like a Strasbourg goose, but so far they are regurgitating it."

It is estimated that in the current financial year, the local authorities will spend £1,120 million on road maintenance even though the Government had allowed for £1,260 million.

Mr Channon said that his Department intended to spend £2 billion over the next three years on the national programme of motorways and trunk roads and an additional £1 billion on existing roads.

The national road programme would increase by 3 per cent in the next financial

year, 5 per cent the following year, and 9 per cent in 1990-91.

The major roads programme includes the spending of £95 million for a link across the Midlands between the M1 and the A1; £62 million on extending the M20 from Maidstone to Ashford, and about £200 million on extending the M40 from Oxford to Birmingham.

The Department of Transport will continue its programme of rebuilding 80 miles of motorway per year.

Foreign aid topped up

By Paul Valley

Britain's foreign aid spending will increase under the new public expenditure programme. An extra £90 million is to be allocated to overseas development over the next two years.

The present budget of £1,235 million, which was to have risen next year to £1,275 million, is now to be increased to £1,305 million. In the fiscal year 1989/90 it will rise to £1,375 million instead of the £1,315 million originally planned.

Yesterday the Minister for

Overseas Development, Mr Chris Patten, said in Bangladesh: "This is a recognition of our ability to afford a larger aid budget and of the value of an effective aid programme both to developing countries and Britain."

The budget in 1990/91 will rise only to £1,420 — a 3.1 per cent increase which on present inflation projections will be a drop in real terms. Overall this will mean that Britain's aid spending is to grow more slowly than public expenditure in general and will not keep pace with the growth in Britain.

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Scientists condemn research plan and demand more funds

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Proposals for an extensive reorganization of basic research in universities and polytechnics were rejected yesterday by the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Sir Walter Bodmer, president of the association and director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, called instead for an increase in spending to prevent a further erosion of research.

Sir Walter said that a modest increase would restore the battered morale of the scientific community. He said he had hoped for a signal from the Government, in the White Paper on public expenditure, of recognition of the need for an extra £100 million a year for the next five years to maintain a satisfactory level of fundamental research.

Sir Walter was speaking after outlining the association's response to proposals to divide universities into three tiers, to be categorized as R, T and X. Only 15 universities would be classified as type R, covering the full range of teaching and research. A handful of type T institutions would carry out a limited amount of scientific research.

More than half of Britain's 45 universities, and most of the 30 polytechnics, would be deprived of the opportunity for research.

The reorganization was proposed in a report from a group working with Sir David Phillips, chairman of the Advisory Board for the Research Councils. Their recommendations were aimed at absorbing the effects of cuts in spending on research which began five years ago.

Lord Dainton, a vice-president of the association and a leading research chemist, said yesterday that the recommendations in the advisory board document, *A Strategy for the Science Base*, were misconceived.

He said that the board's proposals failed to recognize the large number of discoveries and ideas that came from brilliant young scientists in small departments and small universities.

He said there was a need for the future concentration of some expensive new equipment, but that should be done at centres which were accessible to all research scientists.

The association's response says that a strong science base

is essential to national economic and social aspirations, and that the fundamental problem for British science is shortage of funds.

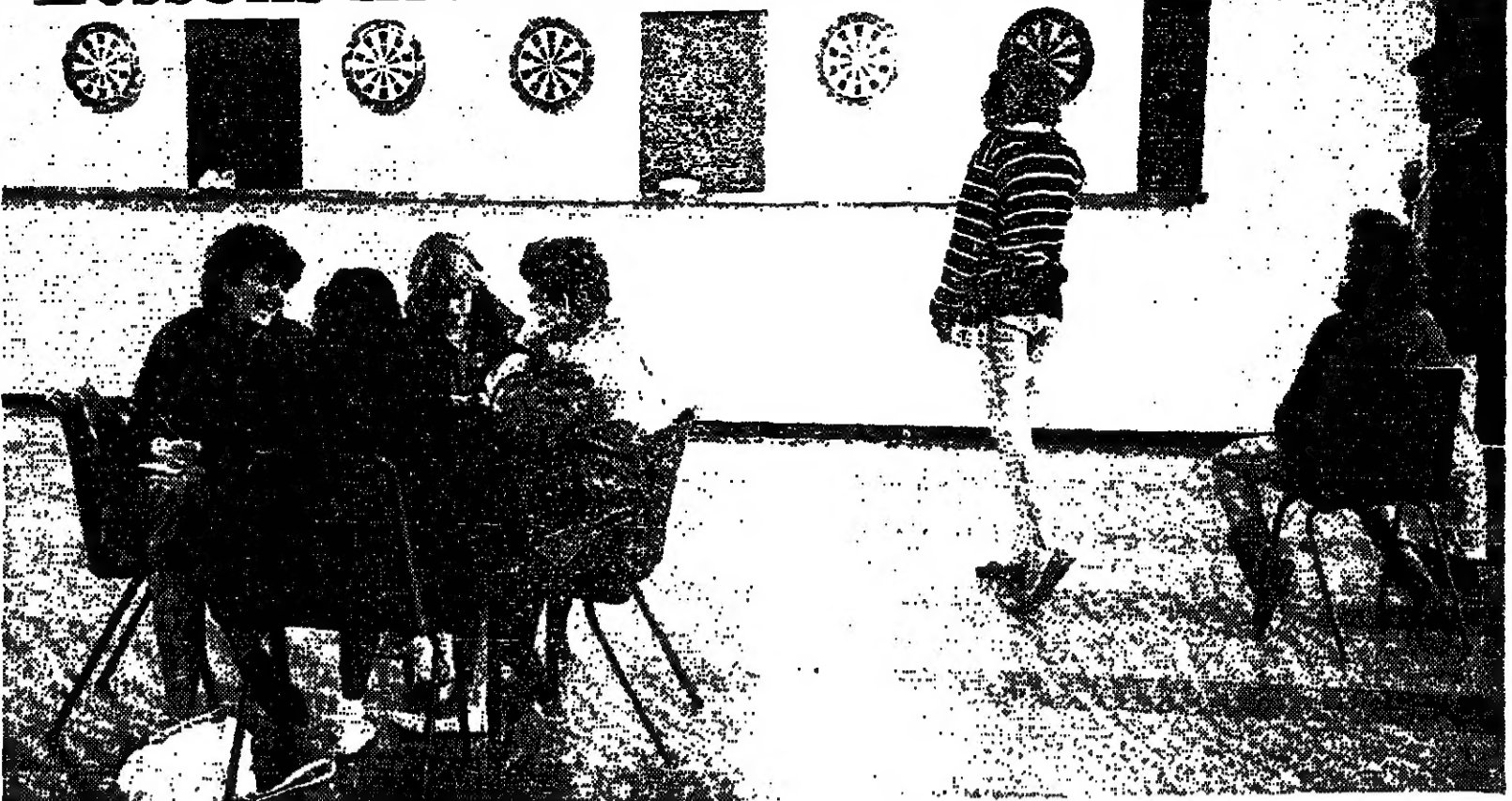
It says that it is important to distinguish between two types of research: that which extends the frontiers of science, and that research, or scholarship, which enables people to maintain their awareness of the frontiers. Not all university staff can engage in research but all must have the opportunity and facilities to engage in scholarship.

Some concentration of resources for research was essential if Britain was to maintain a presence at the forefront of science. Such concentration should be on the basis of departments or subjects, not on the basis of institutions.

Universities needed to develop more effective management of research. The development of interdisciplinary research, breaking traditional boundaries between subjects, was crucial.

The association says Britain must exploit scientific research more effectively by closer links between industry and higher education.

Lessons in maths from the dart board



These youngsters mastering the game of darts are also learning arithmetic and the science of probability as part of a six-day "field course" at a holiday camp in Brighton.

Students studying for the General Certificate of Secondary Education in mathematics are also discovering the educational side of fruit machines and games such as snooker.

More than 500 pupils, aged 14 and 15, have been selected from 14 state schools to spend six days at Budlin's Somerset World.

The camp's snooker hall is being

pressed into use for a project on angles of deflection and fruit machines, adapted to operate without money, are providing the raw material for graphs to show the probability of a jackpot.

The course is being run at the Ocean Hotel by Rank Educational Services under the motto "Learning can be fun".

In between evenings spent in the "Waterworld" and enjoying the Somerset World recreation facilities at just over half the peak season cost, the pupils, from schools all over the country but mostly from the South, are building up continuous assessment

points for their examinations in mathematics, biological sciences, humanities, English and drama.

One group is surveying the "novelty rides" area and others are helping set up a production of *Great Expectations* in the camp's theatre.

The biological studies groups are picking up fossils on the beach and the humanities groups are, under supervision of their teachers and the Somerset World educational advisers, studying local history from bases such as nearby Dunster Castle.

Mr Alan Ridgway, the course director, who in his high-season

incarnation is the camp's entertainment director, said: "Continuous assessment is a very important feature of the GCSE, but the main idea is to prove to the children that learning can be enjoyable and relates to everyday experiences and happenings."

So far, he said, the response from teachers has been favourable, although some have preferred to pitch the studies at a higher level than that envisaged by Somerset World. "The teachers are quite free to adapt our facilities to their own requirements", he added.

(Photograph: Nick Rogers)

Warning on house price fall

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

A leading estate agent predicted yesterday a lowering of house prices in some areas in the South-east.

At the same time, the Nationwide Anglia Building Society reported that prices had increased by 5 per cent in the last quarter, 19 per cent in the last 12 months and forecast that the annual increase might be more than 20 per cent by the end of the year.

The estate agent, Savills, emphasized that it was not predicting a slump in house prices. However, it said that the property market had been overheating, particularly in the past few months, with premiums of up to 15 per cent being obtained on many properties in the more expensive price range.

The company considers that as a result of the Stock Exchange fall these premiums will no longer be available, and that while the best properties in London will retain their current value, houses which were overpriced could fall by up to 10 per cent. In their quarterly survey, the Nationwide Anglia reports that the average price of a property nationally is £47,310, with new properties costing nearly £55,000, up by 17 per cent in a year. The average price paid by first time buyers stands at £34,380 and for previous owner occupiers at £59,380.

Bulls on wane, page 43

MSC may help save Settle line

A job creation scheme could save the spectacular Settle to Carlisle railway line, which has been under threat of closure for four years.

The Manpower Services Commission said yesterday that it was to fund a feasibility study, the outcome of which could see work starting in the spring on a 72-mile "tourism corridor" based on the line.

The scheme was thought up by J Jarvis and Sons PLC, the first national managing agent in the construction industry to be appointed by the MSC.

The company, which earns a management fee for organizing the schemes, has earmarked an initiative in the London Docklands and the line from Settle in North Yorkshire to Carlisle in Cumbria as its showcase projects for 1988.

The latter scheme, conceived with the Settle-Carlisle joint action committee and other interested groups, would initially employ about 200 people. They would be involved in repairing the 24-arch Ribbleshead viaduct, and a scheme to create a theme museum based on the best surviving examples of a huge Hoffman continuous process lime kiln.

Mr Mike Brooks-Rooney, who heads Jarvis's community programme section, said the project would be worth between £10 million and £40 million over five to six years. More than 5,000 jobs could be created.



If UK 2000 wasn't so important, we'd be happy to remain anonymous.

Is making Britain a better place a bit of a pipedream? Those of us who have become involved in UK 2000 don't think so.

The thrust of this new national venture is to 'green' our cities; restore our industrial heritage, the 19th century mills and warehouses; tackle litter and recycle waste; turn neglected woodlands, canals, ponds and footpaths from eyesores into amenities; and make our tourist sites more attractive.

UK 2000 will run to the year 2000 and provide local, community-run projects, involving volunteers and the unemployed.

Esso is helping projects and training by providing funds, experience and people. We have seconded skilled staff to contribute to the management of UK 2000, including the Director of UK 2000's Scottish operation.

We already support the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers,

the Civic Trust, Community Service Volunteers and Groundwork, four of the many groups taking part.

Esso is also active with bodies like the RSPB, the Nature Conservancy Council and the Countryside Commission on other environmental projects. In this European Year of the Environment we hope our involvement in UK 2000 will be even more helpful.

UK 2000 is a partnership between industry, voluntary groups and government, but it also needs individual support.

Please can we urge you to find out more, by writing to UK 2000, 2-3 Horse and Dolphin Yard, Macclesfield Street, London W1V 7LG.

Or telephone 01-631 3826/5160.



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Crime prevention

Crime-ridden estates show how to beat the burglars

By Peter Davenport

Two North Tyneside council estates will be revealed today as models for beating crime in towns and cities throughout Britain.

The previously crime-ridden Longbenton and Killingworth estates were chosen as part of an imaginative crime prevention experiment initiated by the Home Office which has proved so successful that it is likely to form the basis of similar schemes for the rest of the country.

The success of the experiment has led to a national conference opening on Tyneside today called Design Against Crime, which aims to encourage builders, architects and planners to build in anti-crime measures and to work more closely with the police in the design of their developments.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, will be speaking at the conference as part of the Government's drive on crime prevention. He will tour the Longbenton and Killingworth housing estates where the original experiment was based to see for himself how its success has improved the quality of life for the 20,000 residents who live in the 7,000 mainly council-owned houses.

Northumbria police, who are organizing the conference, said yesterday: "It is intended that it will lay the foundations for a new philosophy on fighting crime by preventing it at the planning and building stage of housing developments and business premises."

The two housing estates on North Tyneside selected for the experiment are typical of many dotted around the suburban fringes of towns and cities around the country. Killingworth was blighted with a set of high-rise, late 1960s flats which gradually fell into such disrepair it was hard to find tenants to occupy them and they are being demolished; on Longbenton there were lower-rise blocks which, because of their design, were an invitation to thieves.

Unemployment, a lack of facilities and a high crime rate completed the picture when

the area was chosen as one of five around the country as a target for a crime prevention experiment. The others chosen were Bolton, Wellingborough, Swansea and Croydon.

The Tyneside scheme was run by a committee of representatives from 15 agencies, including the police, the local authority, the probation service and the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. They even questioned 50 convicted criminals to help identify how targets were selected and what would most deter them.

One of the early important discoveries was the extent to which poor design and planning helped the criminal; flats with open stair wells provided easy targets, poor street lighting and badly sited shrubbery helped to provide cover.

The local housing department gave £10,000 for improving the security of houses.

The Department of the Environment provided a further £185,000.

By the apparently simple expedient of erecting fences around previously open spaces, flats and houses were given their own gardens and what psychologists call "defensible space". The results achieved at the end of the 18 months experiment were remarkable; burglaries of homes down 23 per cent, break-ins at non residential premises down 51 per cent, theft of vehicles down 23 per cent.

One of the unexpected benefits of the North Tyneside experiment was the success in reducing the fear of crime among people which can so effect the quality of their everyday lives.

At her home in Charnwood Avenue, Longbenton, Mrs Betty Lunn is the first to agree: "We have never had a break-in but we lived in constant fear because you heard of it happening to other people on the estate."

"We could never have afforded to have the security work done on our pensions but now it has been provided free we feel much more secure, more confident."

Church attitudes 'add to gay promiscuity'

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Church disapproval of homosexuality may have encouraged casual sex and discouraged commitment and permanence in such relationships, the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement said yesterday.

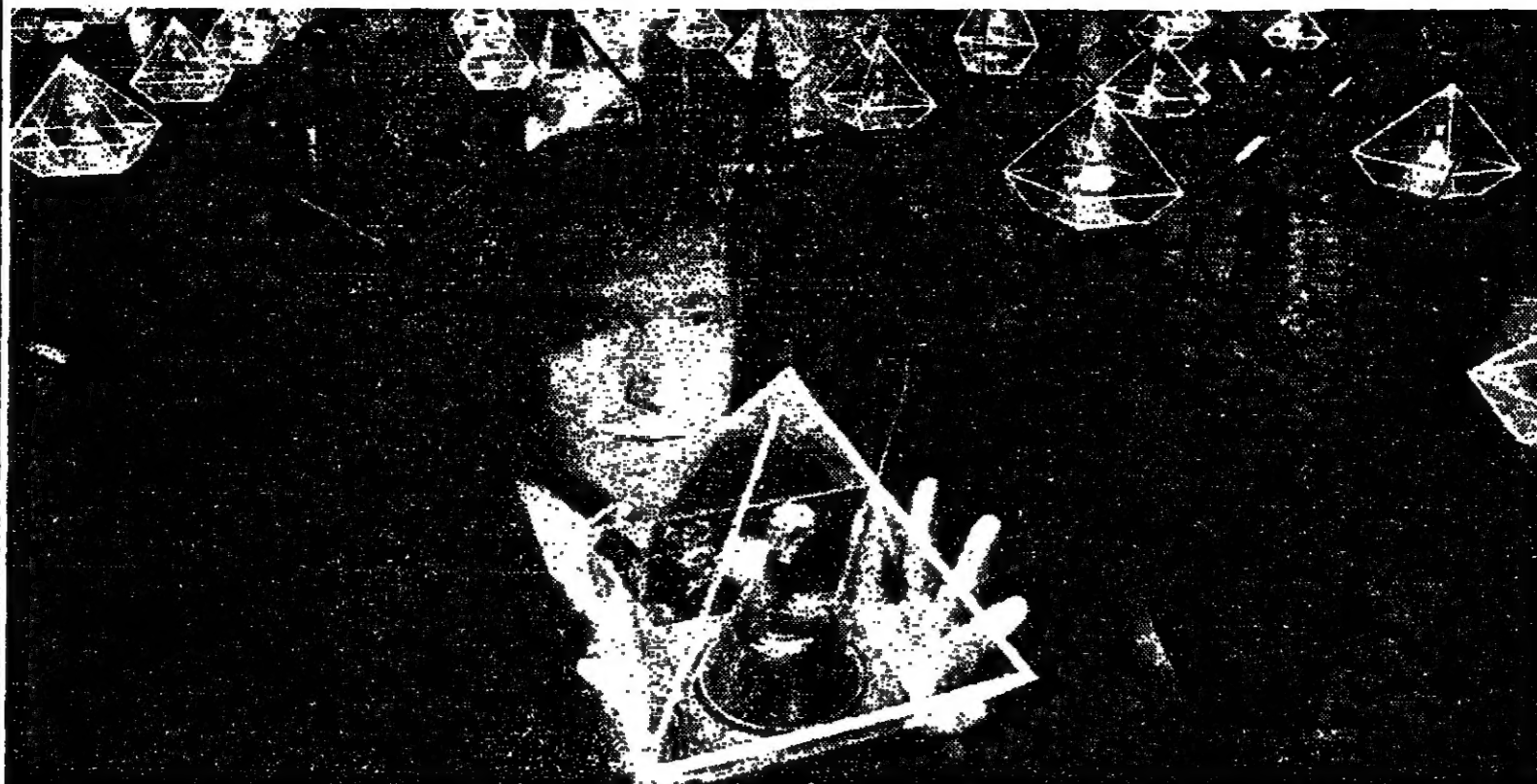
The movement published a statement by a group of evangelicals opposing a resolution to be moved in the General Synod of the Church of England next week. The resolution asks that homosexual acts be declared "sinful in all circumstances".

The unintended encouragement of promiscuity among

homosexuals, the Evangelical group said, was most strikingly demonstrated in the Roman Catholic Church. A homosexual Catholic might confess and receive absolution for a casual encounter of which he repented; but he would be denied absolution if he were involved in a "loving, committed relationship".

"Our experience as evangelicals is that many churches accept homosexuals if they feel guilty, unhappy or lonely, or if they limit their sexual expression to casual encounters which their fellow Christians do not know about", the statement said.

Shining jewels in a goldsmith's crown



Mr Stuart Devlin, Goldsmith and Jeweller to the Queen, with one of his "champagne diamond" jewellery designs, at Goldsmiths' Hall, London. The exhibition of 200 items worth £5 million will close on Friday night, moving to Australia, New York, Tokyo, Paris and Rome (Photograph: John Rogers).

Fish diet 'could improve chances of fathering a son'

Men who eat fish may be more likely to have sons than daughters, according to researchers (Our Science Correspondent writes).

A study of Scottish coastal towns has shown a higher than average ratio of male births, leading the researchers to

suggest that a diet which includes a lot of fish may be responsible.

The connection could be due to the effects of relatively harmless organic arsenic in the fish, which alters male sex hormones, Mr Bill Lyster, an

epidemiologist, said yesterday.

He and Dr Melody Lloyd, of Ninewells Medical School, Dundee, found that the highest ratios of male births in Scotland occurred in fishing ports. In Peterhead, for example, at least 30 per cent more

boys were born than the national average.

Similar findings have emerged from studies in Newfoundland and in Fiji.

The researchers' work comes after their earlier studies suggesting that men in the drinks industry father between

6 and 10 per cent fewer sons than normal, because of the effects of alcohol while butchers are likely to have 20 per cent more sons than daughters.

An Atlas of Mortality in Scotland (Croom Helm, London, price £65).

Beatle's ex-wife 'treated like child'

The former wife of Ringo Starr, the Beatles' drummer, was warned by her solicitor that if she did not manage her financial affairs properly she would be treated "like a child" and given "pocket money", a High Court judge was told yesterday.

The former Beatle - real name Richard Starkey - was divorced from his wife Maureen in 1975 and the financial problems of Mrs Starkey, aged 41, were described to Mr Justice Bush on the second day of a High Court action in which she is suing Withers, the London solicitors.

She alleges breach of contract and negligence in handling her divorce settlement, claiming that Withers did not investigate Mr Starkey's financial affairs properly. The firm denies the allegations.

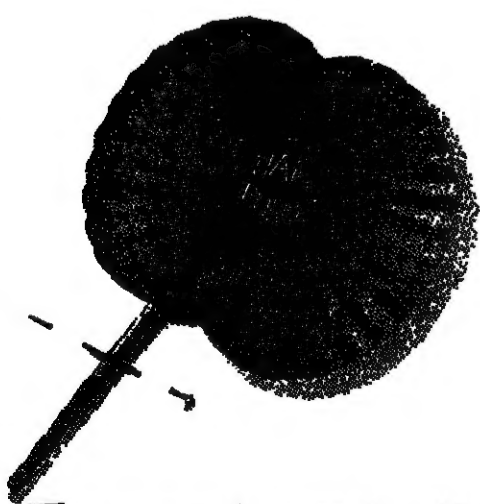
Mr Thayne Forbes, QC, for Mrs Starkey, told the court that after the divorce her bank account was overdrawn and she was under pressure from her bank manager.

"She was not able to meet ordinary, everyday bills", Mr Forbes said. He read letters written by Mr Charles Doughty, a partner in Withers.

One letter said: "I am sorry to treat you like a child rather than a client, but if you behave like a child you will get pocket money like a child".

The hearing continues today.

"Quick, my reading glasses, the phone's ringing"



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Gorbachov's speech seen as spur to the diehards

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

As celebrations in the Kremlin marking the 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution continued yesterday, many Soviet intellectuals expressed deep disappointment with the opening address by the Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachov, on Monday, which lacked full denunciation of Stalin's terror.

The three-hour speech, in spite of its pledge to establish a Politburo commission to rehabilitate innocent victims of the dictator's purges, was widely seen as intellectual circles, where support for reform has been strongest, as a clear sop to the conservatives inside the Kremlin hierarchy.

"The rebuff to Boris Yeltsin for his resignation threat and the absence of any proper denunciation of Stalin sent us one very loud message — the conservatives are now a force which is beginning to gain the upper hand," one intellectual told *The Times*. "And many of us are very worried."

She explained that those watching the speech live on Soviet television had noticed that Mr. Yegor Ligachov, the Kremlin number two and the country's most influential conservative, had been seated directly behind Mr. Gorbachov. "He was busy taking notes all the time during the speech. I fear that it was an ominous sign of things to come," added the intellectual.

She said that the contents of the speech were seen by writers, artists and others in

the vanguard of the campaign for glasnost as aimed at appeasing opponents of reform.

Members of the Moscow intelligentsia were particularly upset that no mention was made of the millions of people killed or starved to death during Stalin's rule. They also expressed bitter disappointment that the speech did not rehabilitate Nikolai Bukharin, the leading Bolshevik executed by Stalin on trumped-up charges in 1938.

Before the speech, rumours had been circulating among Moscow's intellectuals that Bukharin's name would be cleared and that the extent of Stalin's crimes would be spelt out in public.

"As soon as we heard what Gorbachov had to say on the history question, we guessed that the speech would not show any support for Yeltsin's stand at the Central Committee meeting on October 21," the intellectual said. "I am afraid that, come December or January, he will become the first political victim of perestroika."

One Muscovite described the speech as "a speech for fools", adding that, as Mr. Gorbachov already knew that he had the support of the intelligentsia, he had now gone out of his way to try to marshal backing for his Government among the conservatives led by Mr. Ligachov, aged 66, the Communist Party's ideology chief.



Mr. Casper Weinberger, who announced he will be resigning as US Defence Secretary this week, his likely successor to the post, Mr. Frank Carlucci, centre, and Lieutenant-General Colin Powell, expected to take over as National Security Adviser.

High-flier aims for Weinberger post

From Michael Binyon, Washington



Mrs. Weinberger: her ill health prompted decision.

The two men expected to take over top Administration jobs on the resignation of Mr. Casper Weinberger — Mr. Frank Carlucci and Lieutenant-General Colin Powell — are both highly regarded pragmatists who have earned reputations for competence, efficiency and quick decision-making.

Mr. Carlucci, the grandson of an Italian stonecutter, is a spy and incisive former career diplomat who has held high office under four presidents.

After a spell in private industry, he was recalled to the Government last year in the wake of the Iran-Contra fiasco. Since becoming National Security Adviser, he has moved vigorously to reorganize the demoralized National Security Council, enforced new rules barring it from covert operations, established good rapport with other

government agencies, and held the balance in the long-running feud between the Pentagon and the State Department.

In recent months he has consolidated his power, handling negotiations with the Senate on such issues as the arms sales package for Saudi Arabia, and playing an increasing role in co-ordinating policy towards the Soviet Union. As Defence Secretary, he is expected to pursue Mr. Reagan's priorities, but may urge more flexibility on SDI and on spending programmes.

General Powell, who seems set to succeed him at the NSC, commanded the US Army 5th Corps in West Germany before being called to the White House in January. An army Ranger and Paratrooper and a highly-decorated Vietnam veteran, he is considered at 50 one of the Pentagon whiz kids and a brilliant staff officer.

He would be the first black ever to fill the powerful post once held by Dr. Henry Kissinger, and one of the most senior blacks in any Republican administration.

He is said to be an articulate chairman of inter-agency group meetings, and has been closely involved in presenting options to President Reagan for the Geneva arms control negotiations.

Neither is ever likely, however, to be as close to Mr. Reagan as was Mr. Weinberger, whose advice was often paramount on arms control and foreign affairs.

If he had remained until March, he would have overtaken Mr. Robert McNamara as the longest-serving Defence Secretary. His departure so near the superpower summit here could make a big difference in the kind of advice Mr. Reagan receives.

WORLD SUMMARY

Dutch divide on euthanasia case

Amsterdam — Supporters and opponents of euthanasia in The Netherlands are closely following the case of an Amsterdam doctor who has admitted helping incurably ill teenagers obtain medication to take their own lives (A Correspondent writes).

Dr Paul Voute, aged 51, is being investigated by the Public Prosecutor's office in Amsterdam and the Inspector of Public Health.

Although euthanasia is illegal in The Netherlands, the law is vague enough for it to continue openly. The authorities are investigating whether Dr Voute had gone too far by aiding minors to take their own lives.

The Ministry of Justice said investigations were in the preliminary stage. It was possible that the doctor could face criminal charges or have his medical licence suspended.

Prince's Ambush trade plea charges

Cologne — The Prince of Wales yesterday lent his weight to a British trade offensive in West Germany aimed at increasing exports to the federal republic by one quarter in two years (Alan Hamilton writes).

Addressing German businessmen at a lunch in Cologne, the Prince said that British firms were fitter and more able to compete in world markets than ever before. British products were, at the very least, able to match the standards of quality, design and value obtainable anywhere else in the world.

Slaughter of rhinos Appeal a dead loss

Harare — Poachers have killed 13 of Africa's endangered black rhinos in Zimbabwe's northern Matusi national park, the largest number to be killed in such an incursion (Jan Raath writes).

The National Parks and Wildlife Department said a large gang of poachers had crossed from neighbouring Zambia in the past two weeks, split into groups and killed "at least 13". Despite a military-style protection operation the latest killings bring the toll this year to 105, cutting the population to less than 600.

Mecham faces jury

New York — The political career of the controversial Governor of Arizona, Mr. Evan Mecham, right, looks ready to collapse (Christopher Thomas writes).

He faced a Grand Jury yesterday to answer allegations that he failed to report a \$30,000 campaign loan. And leaders of the Mecham Recall Committee lodged more than 350,000 signatures with Arizona's Secretary of State this week seeking a recall election.



Smallpox virus awaits its fate

From Christopher Thomas, New York

The last of the loathed smallpox virus, remnants of a scourge that killed millions and spread terrible destruction, is kept alive in little phials in only two places in the world.

Ten years after smallpox ceased to exist as a human disease, there is an emotional international debate among specialists about what should be done with the remaining specimens.

Some want the virus killed, even though the deliberate extinction of a species would be an unprecedented step. Others say that *variola virus* should be kept alive for research or some other hypothetical future use.

Some US government officials are known to oppose destruction of the stocks because of fears that other countries would keep secret supplies for use in biological warfare. But most specialists agree that smallpox is not an ideal "weapon" and that there are many, more effective viruses.

The virus survives in freezers at high-security laboratories in Moscow and Atlanta, Georgia. "No scientist is working with viable

variola virus or is likely to be allowed to do so," said Dr Keith Dumbell, of the University of Cape Town, writing in the latest issue of *The Lancet* medical journal.

"To the best of my knowledge, destruction of all remaining laboratory stocks would set the final seal on the attempt to rid the world of this infectious scourge," he added.

He asked fellow-virologists around the world about the desirability of destroying the virus. Of 61 scientists in 22 countries who responded, only five thought it should be preserved indefinitely.

The last naturally transmitted case of smallpox was in Somalia in late October, 1977.

Dr Donald Henderson, who headed the World Health Organization's smallpox eradication programme, said he could see both sides of the argument. "As a scientist, I would say let's keep the virus. But looking at the reality of the concerns, I think we would be politically well-advised to destroy it."

He suggested that the Soviet Union and the US should reach an agreement to destroy the last smallpox virus and to stop vaccinating troops.

The report describes two lengthy programmes shown in June, in which viewers saw heavily edited "confessions" believed to have been made after 22 accused people had been harshly treated.

On May 21, 16 young professionals were arrested under the Internal Security Act, which provides for detention of up to two years at a time without charge or trial. Nine were women. On June 20, a further six were detained.

Since then 16 of those arrested have been freed, though legal and civil restrictions on 15 are still in force. Amnesty International is now calling for the an investigation into the ill-treatment of those detained and the release of the six detained later.

TV 'confessions' in Singapore condemned

By Caroline Moorehead

Trial by television, in which political detainees "confess" to having taken part in a conspiracy, is being used to stifle legitimate political dissent in Singapore, according to an Amnesty International report published today.

The report describes two lengthy programmes shown in June, in which viewers saw heavily edited "confessions" believed to have been made after 22 accused people had been harshly treated.

On May 21, 16 young professionals were arrested under the Internal Security Act, which provides for detention of up to two years at a time without charge or trial. Nine were women. On June 20, a further six were detained.

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Iran seizes on US 'error' which led to fisherman's death

From Robert Fisk, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

The American Navy appears to have made a fatal mistake when it fired "warning shots" towards three speedboats in the Gulf, killing an innocent Iranian fisherman on a vessel it thought was Iranian.

The man, who was shot in the face by a machinegun — almost certainly fired from the American frigate USS Carr — has been identified as Mr. Jagadeh Baghavan, aged 22, from Gujarat province in India, a mechanic who was trying to repair the boat's engine when he died on Sunday night.

The Americans originally claimed that they had fired warning shots at three suspected Iranian speedboats on Sunday evening when they approached a US merchant vessel ferrying supplies to American naval ships near Abu Musa island. According to the Pentagon, the Carr opened fire when one of the vessels "began an apparently hostile run" towards the merchant ship.

But the Iranians yesterday produced what seemed certain to be a far more accurate account when they claimed that the victim was an Indian fisherman on board one of three speedboats heading towards the coast of the United Arab Emirates.

An Indian crew member of the vessel on which Mr. Baghavan died described to *The Times* last night how he and his colleagues slowed down in the Gulf when they saw a warship in the darkness, and how they flashed a light to identify themselves.

Mr. Pulsatam Goin, aged 40, who is also from Gujarat province, described how Mr. Baghavan was standing up by the engine of the vessel when he was hit in the face. His body was last night in the mortuary of the al-Qassemi Hospital in Sharjah, where the official medical report recorded that he had suffered a massive wound to the face.

The Iranians are likely to make the most of the man's

death for propaganda reasons and, indeed, the Iranian national news agency Irna yesterday alleged that the Pentagon was only issuing reports of "warning shots" against suspected Iranian vessels "to justify the continuing deployment of US warships in the Gulf".

In fact, the Americans do appear to have been firing as a warning rather than in an attempt to kill: the boat on which Mr. Baghavan was killed, and which I inspected last night, shows no signs of bullet holes, since most of the rounds apparently passed over it.

● **WASHINGTON:** The Pentagon said yesterday that it had seen reports by Irna alleging that one boat fired on a fishing vessel from India and that a crew member had been killed (Michael Binyon writes). But a spokesman said: "We have no independent confirmation of these reports. We therefore stand by our original statement."

Hunt for killers of police

Police searching the perimeter of Frankfurt airport, right, for clues to who shot and killed two officers during a riot on Monday night.

Nine other policemen were injured, four by bullets, when an initially peaceful march by about 200 demonstrators — many wearing masks and crash helmets — in protest against a new runway exploded into violence after they were ordered to disperse. (John England writes).

The police yesterday raided several homes in and near Frankfurt and made their first arrest as one of six policemen in hospital was reported to be in a critical condition with a gunshot wound in his chest.

A man was detained after a stolen 9 mm police pistol was found in a flat in Frankfurt together with a signal flare pistol and ammunition for both guns. But Herr Alexander Prechtel, spokesman for the Federal Public Prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe, was unable to say if the arrested man was suspected of involvement in the murders.

Shots were fired from a group of masked demonstrators when two police squads moved forward to put out blazing piles of hay near the perimeter fence. Herr Hans Neitzel, a police spokesman, said: "It was like a war. The demonstrators were shooting at our men from all directions."



Sandinista officer flees

Ortega secrets may be in US

From Christopher Thomas, New York

The reported defection of a senior Nicaraguan military officer to the United States promises to be the greatest intelligence coup for the Reagan Administration since the left-wing Sandinista Front came to power in 1979.

Major Roger Miranda left Nicaragua on October 25, according to a brief Nicaraguan Government communiqué. He had left "in an abnormal way" with at least \$15,000 (£8,800) in government funds.

The State Department refused to confirm yesterday that he had fled to the US, but it was widely reported that he is being debriefed and could be giving the Administration some intimate insights into the Sandinista Government.

His greatest value would be if he could provide firm evidence that the Sandinistas are aiding left-wing guerrilla groups in Central America.

Although President Reagan has consistently claimed that Nicaragua is "exporting" its revolution, the Administration has never produced any convincing evidence.

Major Miranda was chief personal assistant to Senior Humberto Ortega, the Defence Minister and brother of President Ortega. He was a member of the 105-member Sandinista Assembly, the main consultative body.

According to one account yesterday, he has been supplying information to the CIA for some time. He was reported to have gone first to Mexico, where he once lived for many years, and then on to the West.

Foreign observers of Nicaragua, quoted yesterday by *The New York Times*, said Major Miranda supervised the Defence Minister's personal staff and directed the military's public relations effort. He took official notes at meetings of the military general staff, and was often present at private interviews at which the minister discussed tactics, strategy and intelligence with subordinates and foreign military advisers.

The Nicaraguan Government said Major Miranda, aged 34, had been under investigation for "various anomalies".

Eastern European flavour in tropical socialist paradise

From Charles Bremner, Managua

Anyone who is nostalgic for the Soviet Union will find plenty in Nicaragua to make them feel at home.

The airport does a good job of reminding you that the privilege of entering this workers' state is not to be taken lightly. Under the same dim East European neon lights, young soldiers sit in curtained booths with high sills that could come straight from the old Moscow airport (they probably did). After glancing at your passport for minutes, they hit it with the same type of stamp whose clunking sound brings a shudder of relief to the anxious arrival at Sheremetyevo.

As in Cuba, socialism and the tropics have produced a curious blend. But here the mix is stranger because the country is smaller and the revolution newer and incomplete.

Rallying point for rogues

The Sandinistas are also trying to consolidate their Marxist power at a time when, despite what President Reagan believes, the Moscow of Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev is not crusading to export its Leninist system to America's backyard.

"Their fervour can get a little tiring, but they mean well," confides the weary Russian in the bar at the Inter Continental Hotel, HQ for intrigue, home to journalists, the rallying place for colourful rogues and one of the few buildings in Managua with air conditioning.

This week you could bump into Cuban agents, French priests and Mr. Edward Koch, the Mayor of New York.

For the Russian and East European personnel, Managua is a welcome chance to taste the Americas and enjoy the vestiges of the good life that still flourish here.

Despite the poverty and trappings of war, there are still swimming pools, plenty of rum, an Americanized middle class and private businesses. Even *Barricada*, the party organ, carries baseball scores. The most popular radio station in Managua is the official "stereo revolution" which broadcasts a diet of soft rock music.

But even though you can still eat lobster, if takes hard currency to buy the electronics, perfumes and other luxuries that go with the West. As in Moscow, you can now find these things only in "dollar stores" or in special shops available only to members of the local élite.

The telephone system also reminds you of Eastern Europe. While other Central American countries dial direct, Nicaragua puts on an international operator between you and the number. You give your name and wait for a long time.

A huge crowd at the central post office swelters for hours for the chance to contact family abroad.

At least they can while away the hours looking at an exhibition of Bulgarian achievements. The Bulgarians also run the radio jamming system, but for sympathetic visitors the hardships of this tiny country are part of its attraction.

All the trappings are there for anyone with a yearning for the romance of old revolutionary Marxism. If you had a poster of Che Guevara on your wall in the 1960s, this is the place to relive your youth. Black and red banners proclaim the alliance of peasants and party. Giant billboards depict children's drawings of American sharks swimming around Nicaragua with the caption: "The Yankees are blockading us."

Butterflies hover in the sun over the Russian-style eternal flame commemorating the dead from the civil war that began a decade ago and is still far from over, despite the current peace accord.

Soviet-built GAZ vehicles trundle up what used to be the main street before the 1972 earthquake and the later uprising laid waste to the old town centre by Lake Managua. Even the petrol fumes have that unforgettable East European smell, since almost all the oil comes from Russia.

Everywhere there are uniforms and AK rifles, some of them toted by girls.

Thanks to the American-sponsored Contras, now waging effective war in the countryside, the Sandinistas have a cause to maintain their morale and someone to blame.

David versus Yankee Goliath

for the near-total collapse of their economy.

"President Reagan is like Eva Perón — a waxworks mummy," says a pretty Sandinista girl. The war in the world of the young Sandinistas is David versus the Yankee Goliath. It has made this one of the last places where left-wing intellectuals can come in good conscience to practise what they preach.

Hundreds of internationalists — including many Americans and some Britons — are working on construction and other projects.

Known to the jaded press corps as the "Sandinistas", the young sympathizers live in what appears to be a long-lost world of guitar-strumming innocence.

But things are not so black and white for most Nicaraguans, weary of their country's position as a battleground for the ideological struggle. One T-shirt popular around town says it all — "Soy libre — ¿y que?" or "I am free, and so what?"

Koch takes a look

Managua — Mr. Edward Koch, right, New York's forever wisecracking mayor, arrived in Managua last night to add his very noticeable presence to a VIP team getting a first-hand view of the Americas' ideological battleground (Charles Bremner writes).

American officials were speculating on how the war-hardened Sandinistas would stand up to the verbal rapid fire Mr. Koch likes to unleash on all around him.

He is travelling with a delegation of eminent New Yorkers to monitor the human rights and political scene.



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Botha meets Buthelezi as church leader held

From Michael Hornsby, Durban, and Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

On the same day as President Botha of South Africa and the Zulu leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, met for the first time in two years yesterday in Durban, Pretoria confirmed the arrest of the leader-elect of the Methodist Church in southern Africa.

South African security police detained the Rev Stanley Mogoba, president-elect of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa and president of the prestigious South African Institute of Race Relations, a week before a scheduled meeting between President Botha and leaders of world Methodism.

Last night the Most Rev Desmond Tutu, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, demanded the immediate release and described the arrest as "a classic example of the Government's propensity to shoot itself in the foot".

In his speech at the Durban ceremony inaugurating a new multi-racial Joint Executive Authority for the Natal province, Chief Buthelezi called Mr Botha a "brother in Christ" and praised him for having "done much more than any other previous South African head of state to point this country in the direction of reform".

Chief Buthelezi urged Mr Botha to show "a little more boldness" and to move "a little more briskly" towards black political advancement.

The launch of the JEA could be seen as a first modest move towards a realization of the much more ambitious proposal submitted last year by the so-called Natal *indaba* (Zulu for a tribal conference).

Five of the authority's 10 seats have been allocated to members of Chief Buthelezi's well-drilled Inkatha organization, which is the ruling party in KwaZulu, the Zulu tribal homeland.

Two whites, two Indians and a Coloured have been appointed by the Natal Provincial Administration (NPA) to fill the other five seats on the JEA.

Demographically, Natal is unique among South Africa's four provinces. Of its 6,620,320 inhabitants, 79 per cent are black Africans (nearly all of them Zulus, who account for about a quarter of the country's 25 million blacks), 11 per cent Indians, 9



Chief Buthelezi: called for swifter political reform.

Angola raid death toll increases

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

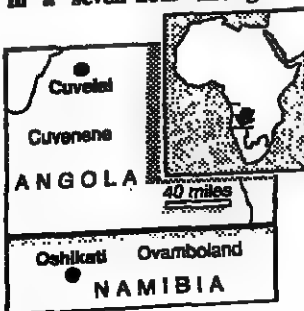
Another South African soldier has died from wounds after the battle in southern Angola at the weekend, raising the official death toll to 12.

The losses in the raid on the South West African People's Organization guerrilla base are the second highest sustained in a single battle during South Africa's 20-year-long war against Swapo, and the highest in five years of fighting.

The cost has undermined South Africa's claims that 150 Swapo "cadres" were killed and hundreds more injured.

South Africa never releases figures for the numbers of its men wounded in action, but a terse statement yesterday from Defence Headquarters in Pretoria indicated there were a number of other casualties.

A further Defence Force statement last night said the South Africans were involved in a seven-hour firefight —



which in military terms is exceptionally long.

It added that further information which might jeopardize the safety of Defence Force members could not be disclosed. Observers take this to mean that South African forces are still deep inside Angola.

The battle is believed to have been in the Cuvetela area about 93 miles directly north of the major South African base of Oshikati, close to the Angolan/Namibian border.

The Defence Force statement, giving details of casualties, said: "In one incident a troop carrier was struck by an anti-tank weapon and five soldiers died. In another incident a number of soldiers were wounded when a mortar bomb exploded among them as they were getting out of their combat vehicle." According to Pretoria, the strike was "pre-emptive" and seriously hindered Swapo's

Nakasone views Japan's resurgent power at sea



Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister of Japan, and Vice-Admiral Ikmo Takasaki, Commander-in-Chief of the Self-Defence Fleet, left, taking the salute yesterday at a fleet review in Sagami Bay. The helicopter frigate Shirane, right, leads a column of destroyers in the force of 54 ships and 49 aircraft.

China tackles its children's protein deficiency

From Mary Dejevsky, Peking

Many Chinese children are still malnourished and receive only three-quarters of the protein they need, according to Chinese nutritionists.

A report presented at a symposium on mother and child nutrition in Peking yesterday said that, although there had been considerable improvement since the 1940s, the average protein intake of kindergarten children was only 35 grams per day.

One of the chief problems is calcium

deficiency, because Chinese are not accustomed to drinking milk.

Chinese children also tend to be deficient in vitamin A because of their low intake of meat, fruit and certain vegetables, especially in winter. Some villages in central China have reported premature hair loss and rickets.

The head of the Chinese office of the United Nations' World Food Programme, Mr Trevor Page, said yesterday that remedying calcium deficiency was one target of his organization's work in China. New projects in central and north-western

China in an attempt to encourage cattle-rearing and dairy production were progressing well.

One project in China's poorest province — Gansu in the north — aims to settle nomadic herdsmen and give them land and seed to grow alfalfa for forage. At present a large proportion of their herds die from lack of food during the harsh winters.

In general, Mr Page said, Chinese children were comparatively well-nourished compared with children in other less developed countries, like India and sub-Saharan Africa.

China is the biggest single recipient of World Food Programme aid, and the organization is increasingly being allowed to penetrate the very poorest regions of the country, including Tibet.

Paradoxically, while trying to ensure that all children are well-nourished, Chinese medical workers are also encountering the opposite problems — obesity in small children. A recent survey in Peking suggested that nearly 12 per cent of all children under 12 were overweight and a clinic has been opened for them.

Pay strike closes Madrid's Prado

Madrid — The Prado museum, Spain's best known public art gallery, was closed yesterday as attendants and security personnel, representing about three quarters of the staff, began an indefinite strike for more pay (Richard Wigg writes).

It the first strike at the Prado since it opened at the beginning of the 19th Century with a collection of paintings assembled for Emperor Charles V and King Philip II.

Fighting back

Vienna (Reuters) — A group of Austrians led by Herr Heinz Kienzl, the managing director of the Austrian National Bank, has formed the League of Friends of the Jews to fight anti-semitism.

Locust threat

Rome (Reuters) — Vast swarms of locusts have crossed the Sahara from Chad, western Sudan and Niger and invaded cultivated areas of Algeria and Morocco for the first time in 20 years.

Toe forger

Bahrain (Reuters) — A Bahraini woman bank worker has been jailed for three months for stealing £42,000 from illiterate savers by dipping her big toe in ink and treading on fake withdrawal forms to forge their thumb-prints.



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Colombo MPs fear more attacks after official is murdered

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

The extremist Marxist group, Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), is continuing its attacks on government officials as police intensify patrols and tighten security in Colombo.

Mr P. N. Balasuriya, private secretary to a government MP, was slashed to death with razors on Monday night in his home at Anamaduruwa, about 60 miles from Colombo. In another incident, youths believed to be JVP members set fire to a branch office of the ruling United National Party at Badulla, 180 miles from Colombo in the central hills.

The JVP has warned government staff not to report for work, and has asked drivers of government buses to suspend services to protest against the debate which was to be held in Parliament this week on the Bill giving more powers to minority Tamils through provincial councils.

But the Bill will not be debated until next week because the Supreme Court, which heard petitions calling for a national referendum, will deliver its verdict to Parliament on Friday.

The JVP, which is composed of militant members of the majority Sinhalese com-

munity who are opposed to the India-Sri Lanka accord, has threatened to kill MPs who vote for the Bill, and President Jayewardene has said that his MPs are living in fear of the JVP. In the south, about 50 people suspected of involvement with the JVP were arrested on Monday.

In another incident at Mirissa, about 90 miles from Colombo - The Sri Lankan Government said yesterday it would cut defence spending next year for the first time since President Jayewardene came to power in 1977 because of India's help in fighting Tamil guerrillas (Reuter reports). Army spending will drop 37 per cent, but the Navy and Air Force escape the cuts.

Colombo, three youths assaulted two policemen who were going for guard duty at President Jayewardene's country home and stole their automatic weapons.

The state-owned Associated Newspapers of Ceylon is also having problems with the distribution of its publications. Three of their vehicles taking newspapers to the Southern province have been attacked by the JVP. Some

newspaper dealers have received death threats from the JVP, which has warned them not to sell anti-JVP propaganda papers, police said.

In the Northern province, the Indian peacekeeping force continued their offensive against the main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. State radio said last night that 25 guerrillas had been killed yesterday by Indian commandos at Vattukottai, 14 miles from the northern capital of Jaffna.

KATHMANDU: President Jayewardene and Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, held their second meeting in two days yesterday to discuss how to set up a regional administration in northern Sri Lanka (A Correspondent writes).

They also held late night talks following Monday's opening session of the South Asian summit meeting.

Sri Lankan sources said Mr Jayewardene would travel to Delhi tomorrow to continue the consultations.

The South Asian leaders held informal talks yesterday at the palace of King Birendra to discuss the summit's final declaration.

Hostage envoy back home



The South Korean diplomat, Mr Do Chae Sung, embracing his five-year-old son in Seoul yesterday when he returned home after being held hostage in Beirut for 21 months. Mr Do, aged 44, said he was blindfolded throughout his ordeal and had no news of other foreigners held in Lebanon (Reuter reports). The kidnapping of Mr Do, the Beirut Embassy

Second Secretary, in January last year was claimed by a previously unknown group, the Revolutionary Commando Cells, which demanded a \$6 million ransom. The South Korean Government denied reports that it paid his captors more than \$600,000. Mr Do said he knew of no political or other motive for his kidnapping by four gunmen.

Malaysia elite rest uneasy up at the club

From David Watts, Kuala Lumpur

It was business almost as usual at the Selangor Club yesterday, where the professional elite of Kuala Lumpur eat lunch overlooking the sports pitches. Parliament and judiciary buildings bequeathed them by the British.

Several guests were wondering whether they would soon join the 93 people arrested so far under the Internal Security Act (ISA).

"Haven't they picked up your father yet?", the son of the Chief Justice was asked, only half in jest. "He's lying low," came the reply.

The question was not an idle one. The Prime Minister's antipathy to the Chief Justice is well-known and the judiciary is one of the few areas of national life that the Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir Muhammad, has left untouched in the crackdown prompted by the fear of racial clashes at the planned rally of the United Malays National Organization (UMNO) last Sunday.

It illustrates that neither Malaysia's present problems nor the arrests are simply a question of taking the racial pot off the boil.

In several cases, members of Dr Mahathir's own political party most responsible for creating the racial tension are still free, while his most articulate critics are behind bars for an unspecified period.

No one doubts the threat of racial clashes was real. Malay posters showing swords carried the slogan: "This sword is hungry for Chinese blood." Malays from outlying areas had been instructed to bring knives or shotguns to last Sunday's rally, which would have been held on the edge of the capital's central Chinatown.

Many of those arrested appear to be paying the price for nothing more serious than antagonizing a Prime Minister, under siege in his own party, badly split after his disputed victory as party leader in April. The attitude of the judiciary will be crucial to the resolution of a suit being brought by 11 members of his party, who are contesting the results of the leadership election in a case which few legal experts believe the Prime Minister can win.

There are serious rivalries within the national coalition front, which includes Chinese and Indian political parties, and investigations are under way into the award of a \$300 million contract for the construction of a north-south

highway to a company connected with UMNO.

The Prime Minister's vision of an industrialized Malaysia is crumbling fast, and he has lost enthusiasm for his own "Look East" policy, which directed Malaysians to take Japan as an example for the country's development. The Japanese, he told a friend recently, are scoundrels. The country's commodity export prices are low and unemployment is high.

"With one fell swoop he has switched attention from all these problems to the ISA detentions," said a veteran Chinese politician. "Now everybody is concentrating on the ISA and forgetting about the real problems."

"The doctor has prescribed two Panadol, one stopping the rally and the other the ISA arrests. They kill the pain but they do nothing for the disease. It depends on what you do from now on," said Mr Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, the Defence Minister until he was purged by the Prime Minister after the April leadership elections.

Whether Malaysia will now begin to divest itself of the trappings of a democratic state is a primary concern for many politicians and ordinary citizens, who have seen the arrest of 32 politicians, both Malay and Chinese, three educators, four representatives of religious groups, nine members of social groups and at least 19 other individuals. The most controversial is the detention of Mr Chandra Muzaffar, leader of Aliran, a public affairs group, who is crippled.

"It's a very sophisticated piece of terrorism," said a lawyer. "Arresting a lot of middle and lower level people you put everybody off balance, especially those at the top. Everyone is cowed."

The Inspector-General of Police may detain the prisoners for up to 60 days while their cases are investigated, and the Minister of Home Affairs has the power to hold them for up to two years. The Government has hinted that some of them may not be held for all of the initial 60 days.

Having initially indicated that it would pursue *habeas corpus* cases, the Malaysian Bar Association now says that it is up to individual families to take action.

The International Commission of Jurists has, meanwhile, accused Dr Mahathir of using the pretext of racial tension to round up his opponents.

Bangladesh flood relief

Patten checks on aid from Britain

From Michael Hamlyn, Taras, Bangladesh

Mr Hatem Ali Pramanik, a short, tough-looking Bengali peasant, stood nervously picking the mud off his fingers while a British minister asked about his life.

He was building a new mud hut to replace the one washed away in the floods, which scoured the land around him clean of crops, houses, everything except, perhaps, hope.

Mr Christopher Patten, the Minister for Overseas Development, was visiting the peasant's *bari* - the little cluster of huts where he and his relatives live - to see for himself the effects of the floods and the way British aid funds are being deployed for the people's relief.

Water the colour of British Rail coffee was still standing, months after the annual rains that flood this area would normally have gone. The fields the minister's Land-Rover crossed were still squelching (the Japanese vehicle I was riding in got bogged down and had to be pushed by a crowd of enthusiastic boys), and Mr Pramanik, a 40-year-old day-labourer who could find no job.

The floodland here yields only one crop a year and this year it will yield none. But Oxfam, the British charity, is paying him, and hundreds like him, day-wages to rebuild their and others' homes.

Mr Pramanik's voice trembled as he told Mr Patten: "We lost everything in the flood. If we didn't get this employment from Oxfam, we would have died."

Oxfam and other aid organizations like Irish Concern, who operate in the next district and who have also received money from Mr Patten's department, and expect to receive more, cannot hope to tackle the vast problems of all the 100 million people of Bangladesh, but they can, and do, help the hardest hit.

On this day trip to the worst-affected areas, Mr Patten saw women weaving mats from date palm leaves and learning to read and write in return for 29lb of rice a week provided by Concern. He saw, and helped to distribute, rice, lentils and mustard seed given by Oxfam as free rations to the hungry.

He saw men given food in return for building prefabricated parts for straw and bamboo huts. He saw rice labelled "A gift from the EEC" being distributed by the Bangladesh Red Cross. He saw little vegetable plots, with radish shoots and spinach showing above the soil.

And in a speech to Mr Pramanik and his neighbours - in fact, a far larger crowd than he might hope to attract at a local Tory party meeting at home - he told them about the anxiety of the British people for the people of Bangladesh when they read of the floods.

He said: "I will tell people in Britain how you are using the help they have given. I will tell them to give more help, and to pray for you as well."

Before leaving Bangladesh last night, Mr Patten signed

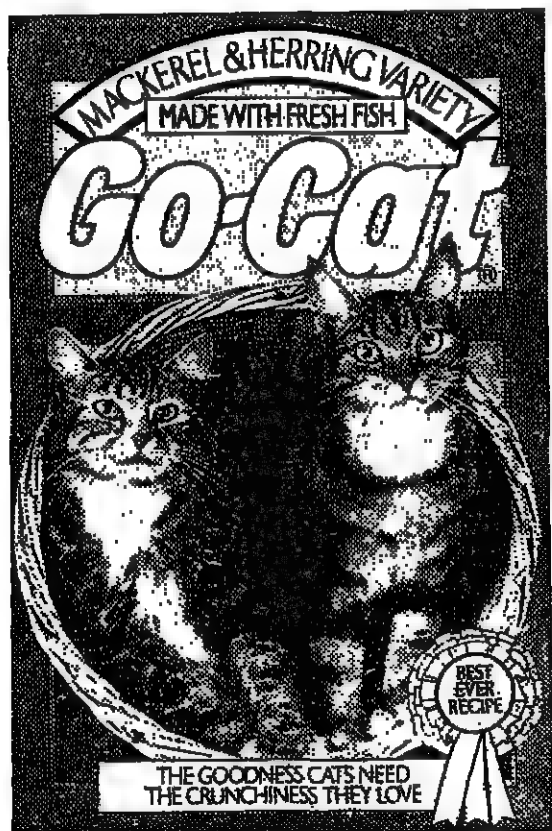


Mr Patten: pledged to ask the British to give more.

two further aid agreements with Mr M. Syedurazzaman, the Finance Minister, at a press conference. They covered the granting of 100,000 tons of food aid and £11.2 million additional project aid for a new phase in the Dhaka electricity supply programme.

Having given away more than £35 million during his visit here, the minister is now expecting to entertain requests from the Bangladesh Government for medium-term rehabilitation aid. Money is needed for bridges, or at least for pontoons, where river crossings have been swept away, and for pumps for irrigation projects, to try to make up the dreadful shortage of grain.

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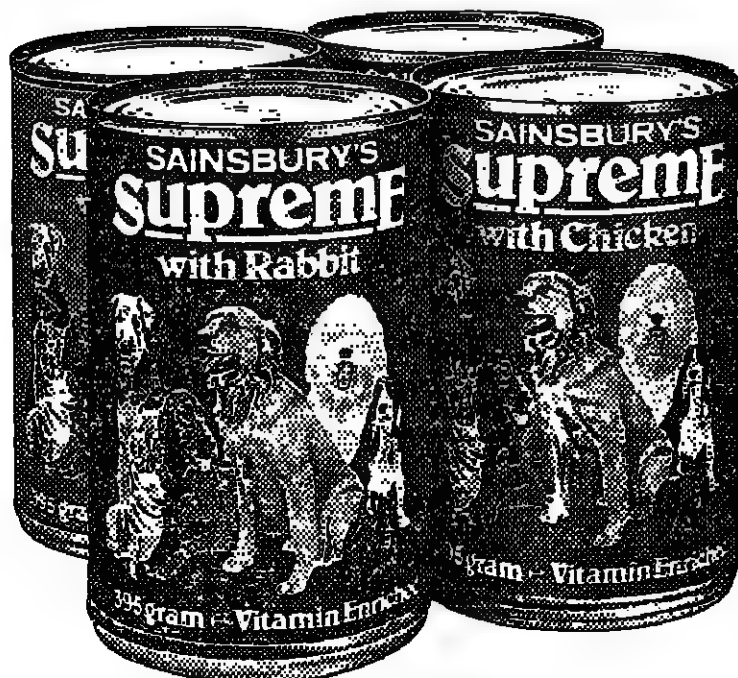
49^p
Biscrok 500g



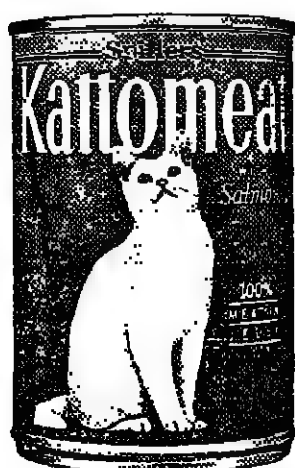
59^p
Winalot
Prime 750g



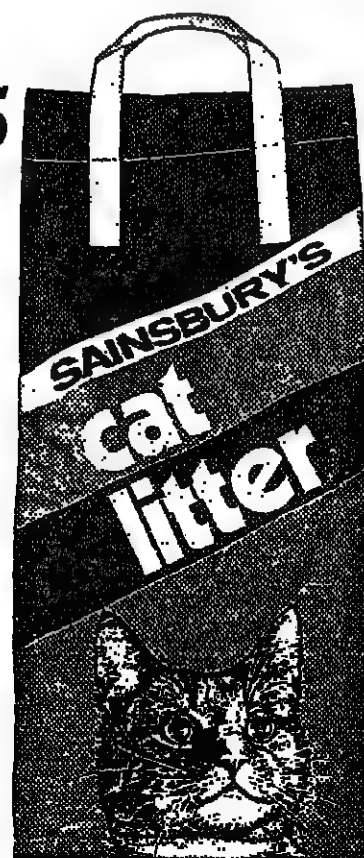
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SPECTRUM

Reliving the revolution



On the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, veterans of the uprising 70 years ago share their memories with Christopher Walker

Seventy years ago this week-end, Fyodor Dmitriev, a 37-year-old Bolshevik, impressed by hearing a single speech by Lenin, was among an angry crowd which stormed a police station 25 miles from Petrograd and began a huge bombing outside with secret documents seized from its archives.

"I remember clearly that we released all the prisoners, whatever their crimes," he told me. "We burnt everything, lists of provocateurs, agents and traitors. In retrospect, I realize that was a mistake — we could have made much better use of those names."

On the same day, some 24 hours after the Bolshevik attack on the Winter Palace in Petrograd (originally called St Petersburg), Pyotr Alexandrov, another teenager disillusioned by Russian setbacks in what he still calls "the great imperialist war", was using a captured machine gun to threaten police in the Gorky region.

Now aged 88, with a hearing aid and a chest weighed down with a formidable array of medals, Alexandrov still speaks animatedly of a day in December 1916 when he first heard that Rasputin was dead. "We all began shouting, 'Grishka is dead', 'down with Grishka', it was a sign of how the Tsar was finding his rule challenged," he explained.

On Saturday, both men will be given place of honour in the elaborate celebrations staged in Leningrad (as Petrograd is now called) to mark the 70th anniversary



of the Bolshevik Revolution, which, owing to a calendar change, is observed on November 7.

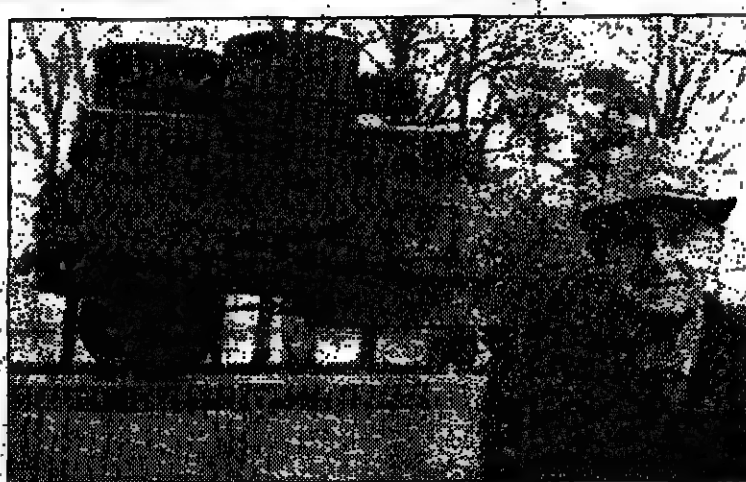
They are part of a dwindling contingent of only 17 veteran Bolsheviks who fought in the revolution still surviving in the elegant city that was always known as its "cradle". As a result of Stalin's purges, disease, old age and the rigours of the Second World War, the rest are all dead and most of those still living are bedridden.

For Dmitriev, whose first job was driving horse-drawn carts filled with coal, the outstanding memory remains May Day, four months earlier, when Lenin, newly returned from exile, addressed a crowd of tens of thousands on the Leningrad parade grounds known as *Mosovo Pole* (the Field of Mars).

"It was a beautiful sunny day and remarkable because for the first time we could celebrate a holiday without the monarchy. I was about eight yards from Lenin when he climbed on the back of a truck to give his address. It was a moment which changed my life and which is the reason why I am still an active Communist," recalled Dmitriev, now a sprightly 87-year-old.

"Lenin wore a dark overcoat when he spoke and held his cap in his left hand, gesturing with his right as he pressed home his points. His speech was simple, understandable and really only became emotional when he appealed to us to fight the organs of Soviet power."

Dmitriev, recently had the chance



Flashpoint: a painting of the storming of the Winter Palace (top) and Fyodor Dmitriev in front of an armoured car from which Lenin spoke

"I heard Lenin's address. It was a moment which changed my life"

to compare Lenin's performance with that of one of his major disciples, Mikhail Gorbachev, when the present Kremlin leader addressed the veterans and spoke of the current changes in the Soviet Union which he has described as "a revolution without shots".

"What they have in common is their ability to give speeches without notes," Dmitriev explained. "There is not a big difference in content, but Lenin's speeches were

how-fitted more easily into the brain while Gorbachev's are longer and have to be read once or twice."

Few Communists would dare openly criticize Gorbachev's style in front of a Westerner, but the veterans enjoy a privileged position. Similar, less muted criticism of Gorbachev's verbosity is frequently voiced, in private by present day Soviet citizens. But Dmitriev dismissed suggestions that present day Soviet youth lack the ideals of past

generations. "It is only a small fraction that feels like that," he said.

When the teenage Dmitriev joined the Bolshevik Party soon after Lenin's historic address on May 1, 1917, "our membership jumped from 25,000 to about 300,000 in less than a year," he claimed. "One of the main reasons was the radicalization caused by the Provisional government when it attacked and killed those marching in the streets under the Bolshevik banner in the summer of 1917. The bloodshed had a great effect on the thinking of ordinary people."

Pyotr Alexandrov, who also joined the Bolsheviks in May 1917, said he first realized that a revolution was possible when, earlier in 1916, he had seen the wives and widows of soldiers storming foodshops in their desperate search for something to eat. He described the Bolsheviks' bitter criticism of the war as one of the main reasons why they attracted the necessary support.

With their vivid memories of the deprivations of life before the revolution, it was not surprising that Dmitriev and Alexandrov remained such spirited advocates of its advantages. But had they been fitter and braver, I would have liked the opportunity to tour Leningrad's poorly supplied shops and dismal public housing to ask them — as one American correspondent did in a recent question to a foreign ministry official — just how extensive the achievements of the past 70 years really had been?

Power had been seized with few casualties "and, it must be acknowledged, with an evident anxiety to preserve the formalities of procedure". Our leader commented ("Russia's Critical Hour") declared that these developments were no surprise.

But we could not quite give up hope that things were not as bad as they seemed. "That the real Russia will ever consent to make a separate peace, or can acquiesce in the extravagances of the Soviet manifesto, is impossible to believe". Not many people in Britain found such unwelcome news easy to believe. But little by little, in the succeeding months, it would become impossible not to believe it.

George Hill

Even on a Sunday?

Faster, better value motor repairs are on the way — seven days a week too

It is Sunday morning in Dagenham, Essex. The Ford main dealer, crouched in the shadow of the massive Ford car plant, is closed. As in most places, getting a car serviced at a dealer on Saturday morning is an achievement; on Saturday afternoon or Sunday it is not even worth contemplating.

Within half a mile of the Dagenham dealership, however, there are eight cars on shiny new ramps being serviced in a smart workshop. Some of the owners have stayed to watch the work, a computer having produced a quotation before they handed over their keys. The work-

cess depends upon getting the customers' needs first. Ford concedes that its dealers rarely service cars after they are three years old. VW/Audi dealers retain 34 per cent of their owners, more than most rivals, yet six years ago the figure was nearly 50 per cent.

David Carter, VW/Audi's parts and service director, says: "Nine till five opening is no longer acceptable." The fast-fit operations work shifts to cope with seven-day opening. Manufacturers will struggle to force their dealers to follow suit, and it is unlikely they will even open on a Sunday.

Servicing is seen as the ultimate 'distress purchase'

Yalcin Kuruili, a data sales assistant, is in no doubt about the benefits his Cortina undergoes a service by one of the Halfords' mechanics. "I work from 8.30 until five, so a garage would be closed," he says. "But on Sunday everyone is free."

Many motorists like to see their cars being serviced. Ian Staples, managing director of Halfords, says: "The customer is our focus — it is what he or she wants to be."

The big names, knowing they must make their outlets more competitive, are fighting back. Take your car to Dagenham Motors and a full service will cost £77.40 — that expensive — with £48.99 at Halfords' down the road, but the gap is narrowing. Buy a replacement alternator for a Golf from a VW dealer and not only is it cheaper than a year ago, but it will be fixed free.

Daniel Ward

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1. Camper's stove (6)
2. Barstool novelist (6)
3. Arrival time (1,1,1)
4. Angrily (2,4,7)
5. Restless (4)
6. Disturb (6)
7. Water conduit (6)
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Showing off

Within a year of founding their company, two designers seem to have cornered the market in setting up the most important exhibitions

Last week, it was the Hayward Gallery exhibition of Diego Rivera paintings; on Friday it is the Royal Academy's huge "Age of Chivalry"; in two weeks' time, a Leonardo exhibition in Madrid; next year comes the Winchester Cathedral museum, the RIBA gallery extension and Sir Terence Conran's design museum by Tower Bridge.

The exhibition design partnership of Stanton-Williams, formed just over a year ago, has seemingly cornered the market in the design of such exhibitions. They began with the Hayward's Rodin exhibition last year and continued with work for the V & A, Westminster Abbey and even the new Issey Miyake men's shop.

"We broke all the normal retailing rules by having the main sales area in the basement," Alan Stanton says. "We gave it the same treatment as for an exhibition, where the clothes are objects responding to the surroundings," says Williams.

Stanton is a 43-year-old architect who found himself designing exhibitions in America and France. Williams, aged 37, is a graphic designer. They met four years ago, when working on a Tate Gallery exhibition; several joint projects followed, culminating in a joint name.

"We spark off each other," Stanton says. "We each act in a role of either creator or critic: we swap roles, and I think the quality of the work improves because of that. But every project is a joint one."



Alan Stanton: "Quality is our prime asset"

There is no typical Stanton-Williams project at the Abbey they had to make as much of the Norman undercroft as of the objects; at the RIBA they will have to provide a sort of subdued stage set to make the space adaptable enough for a multitude of uses; the "Age of Chivalry" required them to cram 850 incredibly old objects — including a 21 ft tall piece of stained glass — into fairly unrelenting picture galleries within six weeks.

Stanton and Williams frequently work "through" the night, and most weekends at their studio in Spitalfields, east London. They maintain an almost fanatical attention to detail. This comes from working with museum curators and art historians. It would not, perhaps, be necessary in the more lucrative market of trade shows.

"We couldn't do that," says Alan Stanton. "Our prime asset is the quality of what we are doing. And we do it because we like it."

Simon Tait

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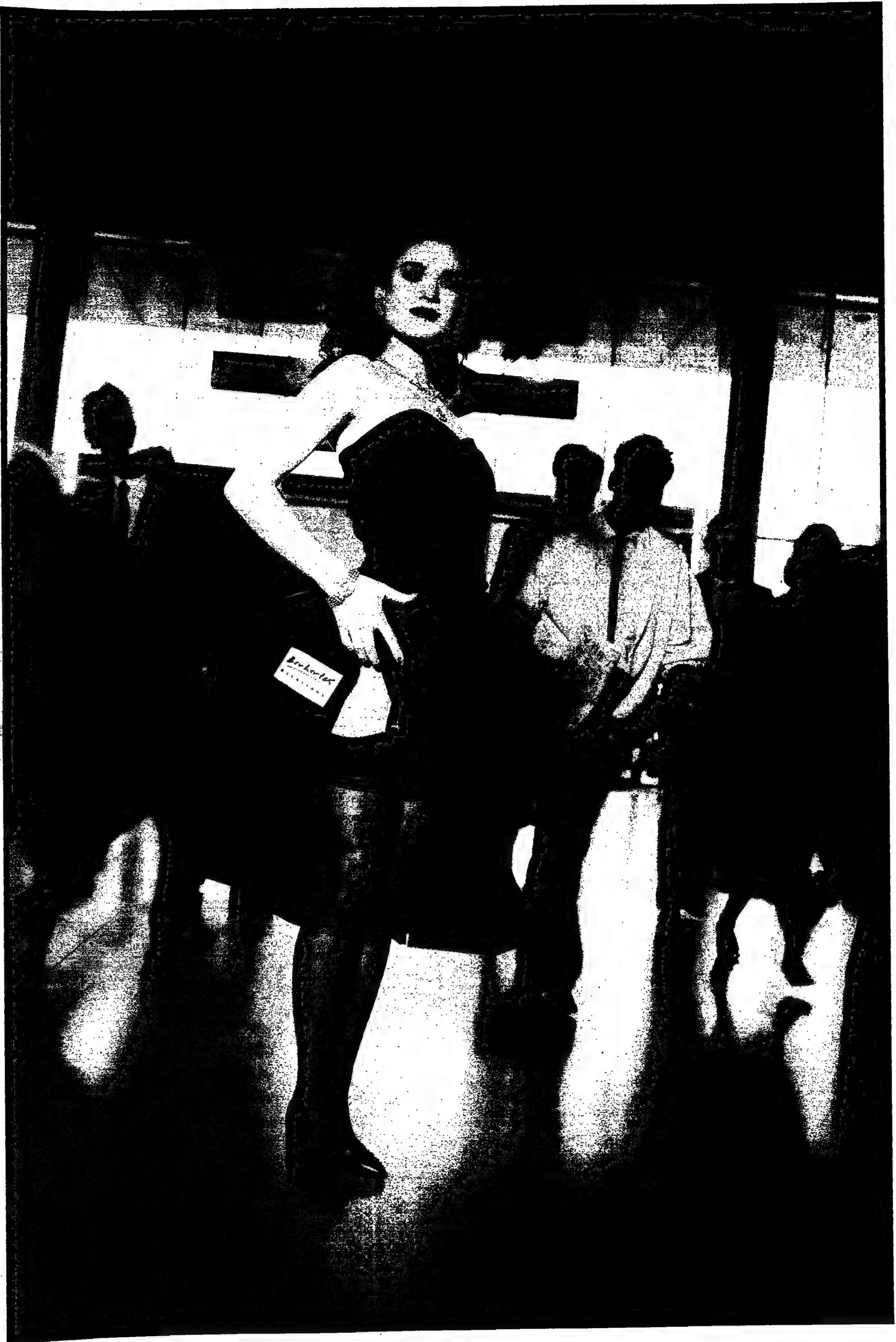
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MILTON KEYNES



THE TIMES DIARY

No dinner for Owen

SDP leader David Owen used to hold "Limehouse dinners" each autumn for leading party members, and his successor Robert MacLennan has decided to continue the tradition. Hosting the first one in the Commons last night, he invited all strands of opinion within the beleaguered group. Bill Rodgers, Roy Jenkins and sundry others accepted but there were five refusals. No prizes for guessing they were David Owen, John Cartwright, Rosie Barnes, Mike Thomas and Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler, all anti-mergerists. But the former leader has eclipsed his successor in one way. During his tenure Owen secured SDP representation at the Cenotaph Remembrance Day ceremony for his party as it has more than six parliamentarians. Now down to five MPs, MacLennan does not figure on this year's party leaders' attendance list for Sunday's ceremony.

Brooke's cycles

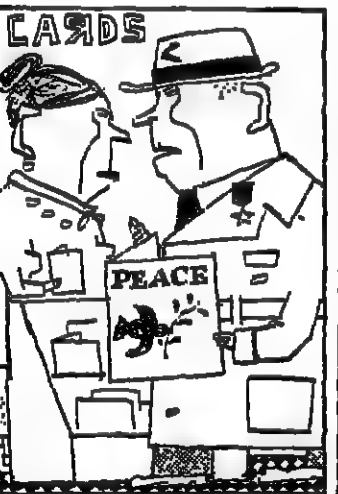
Anyone who has bothered to follow the career of the new Tory party chairman in detail will know how long he is likely to stay in the job. For those not so well acquainted with Peter Brooke's steady political rise I can reveal that on past form he will spend just two years at Smith Square. In an interview with the Commons publication, *The House Magazine*, in January 1986, the former Treasury Minister and present Paymaster General admitted there had been an "enjoyable regularity" to his career. "I did two years as a junior whip, two years as a senior whip and two years as an under-secretary." Need I say more?

© The Middle East's troubles have taken a biblical turn. Following bad flooding in Egypt in the past few weeks, the country is now suffering from a plague of snakes. As the waters lap the country's southern plains, the Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram* reports 270 cases of snake bites.

Straight across

Staff at *Labour Weekly* are determined to have the last word. The following advertisement appears in the final issue of the paper, axed by the party's NEC last week: "Wanted. Socialist party with sense of history and complement well-organised, hard-working team of left-wing newspaper journalists. Previous publishers need not apply." Meanwhile the sole surviving weekly party newspaper, *Liberal News*, is revealing in its rival's demise. Crossword buffs are busy working on the puzzle in *Labour Weekly*, the solution to which will be published in next week's *LN*.

BARRY FANTONI



"I've sent one to Reagan, comrade - this one's for Gorbachev"

Art Kits

Following last week's Booker prize, this week's more arcane book award - the Mitchell for history of art publications - announced last night at the Royal Academy, went to a Green. Not a member of the environmental group but one Christopher Green of the Courtauld Institute, who won the 20th-century category \$3,000 prize for his *Cubism and its Enemies*. He tells me that not is his first name commonplace in the relatively small world of art history: his surname has a certain colour. A Christopher White has recently written a book on Rubens, and Christopher Brown of the National Gallery reviewed it. And in one issue of *The Times Literary Supplement* some years ago C. White, C. Green and C. Brown had reviews on the same page. Sounds like a case of triple vision to me.

• The cross-Channel ferry company, Sealink, is moving part of its London staff to new offices in Ashford, Kent. In the same building is a branch of Trans Manche-Link, building contractors to the Eurotunnel project due to challenge the ferries' monopoly of the routes to France.

Bob's your uncle

The Rev Clem Hawke, father of Australia's Prime Minister, had staff at the Royal Adelaide Hospital momentarily worried when he was admitted after a fall. Nurses, who did not immediately associate the 89-year-old Congregational minister with his premier, feared the worst when they asked him the two questions used to ascertain if elderly patients are confused from a bump on the head. He could tell them where he was and he would keep insisting the Prime Minister was his son.

PHS

Variable breeze for lucky Lawson

Tim Congdon on the economic indicators in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement

Nigel Lawson's predecessors as Chancellor of the Exchequer must be drooling with envy at the happy economic environment in which the Autumn Statement was presented. It is rare for any British government to be able to boast that the UK's economy is growing faster than that of any other industrial economy, but to be able to make this boast while inflation appears under good control is unprecedented in recent decades.

Mr Lawson's own performance has been exceptional. There is nothing quite like it in the annals of post-war macroeconomic management. He has presided over the most rapid growth in bank lending and the money supply since the early 1970s, but at the same time maintained a solid reputation for financial probity. He has allowed a vigorous boom in personal credit and consumption to develop, but instead of the financial markets punishing him for irresponsibility he enjoys the plaudits of City commentators and is the toast of the foreign exchanges. It may not be an accident that the statement was timed to come out on the day of an announcement of a \$6.7 billion

increase in the reserves. But how much longer can good statistics on the "real" economy (output, employment) be reconciled with a sound record on the financial variables (the balances of payments, inflation)? If Mr Lawson can maintain the economy in its current blissful condition - with growth of more than 3 per cent, moderate inflation of less than 5 per cent and satisfactory external payments - for the next two or three years, he will have set the scene for another Conservative triumph in the next general election and will go down as the most successful Chancellor of modern times.

Unhappily, some deterioration in the economic situation is likely and is indeed hinted at by the Autumn Statement itself. First of all, growth is expected to slow from 4 per cent this year to 2.5 per cent in 1988. The Chancellor does not explain in great detail exactly why the slowdown will occur, but there is a clear implication that the

worthiness. A payments deficit of £3.5 billion would be only a tiny fraction of our external assets of over £100 billion, while the strong condition of the public finances means that any foreign borrowing would not be the counterpart of an excessive budget deficit, but would instead be for the benefit of the productive private sector. Perhaps Britain should become a capital importer, with its growth potential more promising today than for many years because of its scope to catch up with somewhat richer European neighbours.

These arguments are cogent and interesting. Mr Lawson has expressed confidence that Britain should have no difficulty financing a payments deficit, and the latest reserve figures suggest he is right. But every post-war boom has culminated in a sterling crisis, as international financial markets realize that Britain's balance of payments is much worse than that of other industrial countries. It will be his unique achievement if Lawson's boom does not meet the same retribution. The author is Chief UK Economist of Shearson Lehman Brothers, the securities house.

Woodrow Wyatt

Misreading the market runes

Centuries of civilization and a capacity for rational thought have not eradicated superstition even among the most intelligent who influence our affairs. "Bomber" Harris consulted Lyndoc, the Sunday newspaper astrologer, on the best times to launch his bombers against German targets in the last war. Apparently sane financial pundits and operators in the stock markets tell us that the recent falls in share prices forecast dire things to come, as though those who buy and sell shares are gifted with collective extra-sensory perception. This notion would have delighted the late Arthur Koestler, who left more than £500,000 to endow a chair of parapsychology subsequently founded at Edinburgh University.

My own guess is that the fall in share prices has been caused less by a paranormal agency than by material facts, such as a swelling American trade deficit coupled with a huge US government indebtedness and an inert and increasingly less powerful US president. It thus occurred to a number of shrewd students of the stock markets that the yields on Wall Street were far too low for sensible investors and their conclusion, linked to the world with an almost magical but not paranormal electronic immediacy, rapidly infected other stock markets. These reactions, if not well handled, could help to cause a depression, though they are not the stuff of Sibylline books. This will not prevent the soothsayers having their day in line with their prejudices.

One of the favourite victims destined for doom is Mrs Thatcher's privatization. Its enemies thought they had its scalp as the BP share price tumbled. One more shove and the new BP offer might have been cancelled, throwing government revenue-raising and future privatization into confusion. Nigel Lawson, who looks remarkably unsuperstitious, dealt with the matter in a forthright, practical way. I am confident that he did not consult an astrologer.

However, the attacks on privatization will continue and may gain confidence among those who misunderstand its purpose. Certainly one of its objects is to spread share ownership wider. That may be momentarily dented by the new BP issue opening well below the offer price, notwithstanding that other major privatization issues, apart from Rolls-Royce, still stand comfortably above their opening prices and the new BP shares at a price of around 80p give a yield of some 20 per cent if held for a year.

Though privatization shares may yet suffer disagreeable drops it is probable that most holders of them, whether individuals or institutions, look for a long-term profitable investment.

But there is another aspect to privatization more important than who owns the freely bought and sold shares. It is the creation of greater efficiency. The principle stands that private ownership augments the creation of national wealth better than state ownership. There may be a question mark over British Telecom, whose post-privatization performance has not won many friends, apart from its shareholders, for privatization, through the seeming substitution of a public monopoly by a private monopoly equally indifferent to its customers. Yet public outcry and the activities of

Oriel are now getting a better response than similar complaints would have had if BT had remained nationalized. Though the former state servants remain in charge, their conversion to businessmen makes them more sensitive to public criticism, particularly as Mercury is aggressively pounding behind them, and in 1990, when its operation is due to be reviewed, BT could lose much of its business if it does not smarten itself up in time.

The mere hint of privatization does wonders. Addicted to subsidy, British Steel for years hobbled limply along, demanding and getting huge welfare payments from the taxpayer. As the concept of privatization won more adherents so the losses of British Steel began to drop. In 1985-86 it made a net profit of £38 million and in 1986-87 one of £178 million. An astonishing turnaround from a net loss of £1,784 million in 1979-80. The improvement comes from greater productivity, better quality and more energetic marketing.

The atmosphere of privatization is proving a spur for British Coal. Three years ago the average production per shift was 2,08 tonnes. Last year it had risen to 3.29 tonnes. The knowledge that a privatized electricity industry will not automatically, as in the past, buy overpriced British coal is turning a lousy old-fashioned industry into a modern one. British Coal may itself in the next few years become a candidate for privatization. British Rail, too, is feeling the privatization spur. Its subsidies from the taxpayer have dropped by 25 per cent in the three years to 1986-87 and are due to drop another 25 per cent during the next three years. Who knows? We may get back the old GWR and LNER if the enemies of privatization are defeated.

There is an irreversible shift to privatization, some of it almost unnoticed because there has not been much wider share ownership involved. The sale of government holdings in Ferranti, the management buyout of the National Freight Corporation, the sale of International Aeradio, British Rail Hotels, Scott Lithgow, Wychn Farm, Sealink, Inmos, the National Bus Company, the Royal Ordnance, and so on have relieved taxpayers of huge losses and brought the Treasury hundreds of millions of pounds. They have also lifted the efficiency generally of British industry.

What about the big ones to come, like water and electricity? Their privatization is intended not merely to improve efficiency but to enlarge the number of ordinary shareholders. Will the stock-market storm in which the recent BP offer found itself put off small investors? There is no reason why it should. By the time further big privatization issues come to be sold the stock markets should be in a more settled condition. It could be that the prices the Treasury get will not be as high as they would have been a month ago. That would make privatization more attractive to the long-term investor using his savings wisely for income.

Meanwhile, the general public does not seem as shaken as the financial soothsayers. Last Saturday at four racetracks in different parts of the country the Tote cash turnover was 48 per cent up over the equivalent Saturday a year ago. As Tote bets are not essential spending it suggests there is no panic downstairs, whatever is going on upstairs.

Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Trade and Industry, argues that Europe's space effort is too profligate and must be opened to the private sector

Putting space to work

There have been suggestions in recent weeks that the government is proposing to end support for space research. This is nonsense. Our case is that there should be a fundamental reappraisal of the European Space Agency's strategy and operations and that there should be no increase in the level of the government's funding for space, which already runs at over £110 million a year.

But this most definitely does not mean that we want to pull out of the ESA or end the European space effort. Britain was a founding member of the ESA. Our space scientists enjoy a high reputation and our companies have played a key role in such areas as communication and earth observation. We recognize the importance of a strong European capability in space and we feel that this can be achieved only by international co-operation.

However, for such co-operation to be successful, there has to be a clear agreement on objectives and priorities. Are we in search of largely political objectives based on some desire to create a European presence in space alongside American and Russian programmes? Are we pursuing advances in pure science and, if so, how large a share of all our science budgets should "big" science take? Are we seeking the economic benefits of technological advances and, if so, which programmes produce the most value in materials research, software development and so on? Do we believe that real commercial benefits providing return on capital will arise from some of the programmes?

In my opinion, most governments are seeking a combination of these objectives. But demands to give priority to achieving manned space flight by the year 2000 show that political objectives are uppermost in the minds of some. I believe that greater emphasis should be placed on scientific and economic objectives. Unfortunately the European Space Agency has not so far helped governments to agree on the balance. I believe that it has simply piled up grandiose pro-



posals, seeking to pursue every objective regardless of cost.

The ESA is at present primarily an R&D organization. It has the high operating expenses and cost inefficiencies characteristic of a multinational bureaucracy. It has traditionally been geared to wholly government-funded projects, and has seen its technological role as one of developing capabilities which member states can exploit nationally in separate programmes. As a result it has become largely divorced from the market place and lacks the necessary commercial and industrial discipline in its decision making.

The main projects currently being worked on by the ESA executive are Ariane 5, the Columbus space station and the French Hermes space vehicle. These would be hugely expensive if adopted as proposed. They are also the kind of programmes where costs tend to escalate unless they are properly managed and controlled.

The ESA executive is calling for a 150 per cent increase in real terms in its current spending by 1992. This could mean a three-fold increase in Britain's contribution. We already contribute around £80 million a year and spend a further £30 million a year within this country on civil space. This is not insignificant. The increase being proposed by the ESA would require an extra £200 million a year from Britain. To the taxpayer, this is the equivalent each year of more than a dozen new hospitals or the present bill for books for the whole state secondary education system.

I believe it is now time to take stock. We need to rethink then ESA's strategy and priorities. The member governments must face up to economic and commercial realities. We have to choose which features of space activity will bring the maximum scientific and economic benefits to those who participate. We are not alone in this view. I

have discussed with British companies how they can best contribute both to the better targeting of ESA programmes and to reshaping our own domestic programmes. They are keen to become more directly involved and to work with the British National Space Centre in identifying priority areas. In this I endorse Roy Gibson's view that a broad-based examination of the facts is required before future commitments are entered into.

Other member states share these concerns. My recent contacts with European space ministers have made clear that they have significant doubts about trying to decide all of the ESA executive proposals at this stage. The difference is that we are saying publicly what most of them are still saying only in private.

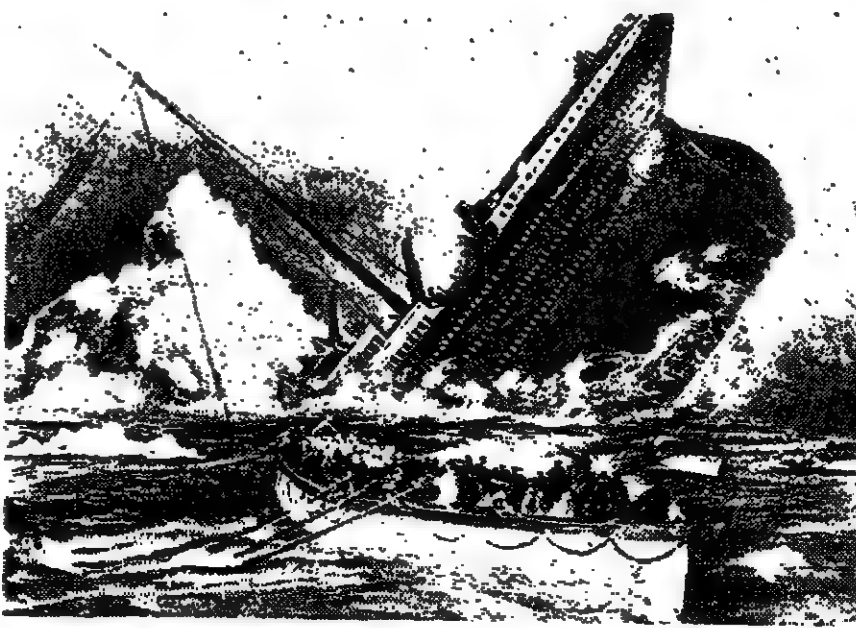
At the same time I shall be emphasizing that Britain wants to continue to play a constructive part in European space research. We wish to see a strong European space industry, and a well directed ESA programme is essential to this. But the European Space Agency and the private sector must be brought together, and the sooner the better.

One lays a hand on a forehead — it is cold



The Times continues its selection from a new anthology of some of the most vivid reports in history with accounts from a padre at the Somme, the Rev John M.S. Walker,

from Mrs D.H. Bishop, a passenger who survived the sinking of the Titanic, and from Lieutenant George Brown aboard Nelson's flagship at the battle of Trafalgar



FROM A LIFEBOAT

April 15, 1912: We did not begin to understand the situation till we were perhaps a mile or more away from the Titanic. Then we could see the rows of lights along the decks begin to slant gradually upward from the bow. Very slowly the lines of light began to point downward at a greater and greater angle. The sinking was so slow that you could not perceive the lights of the deck changing their position. The slant seemed to be greater about every quarter of an hour. That was the only difference.

In a couple of hours, though, she began to go down more rapidly. Then the fearful sight began. The people in the ship were just beginning to realize how great their danger was. When the forward part of the ship dropped suddenly at a faster rate, so that the upward slope became marked, there was a sudden rush of passengers on all the decks towards the stern. It was like a wave. We could see the great black mass of people in the stateroom sweeping to the rear part of the boat and breaking through into the upper decks. At the distance of about a mile we could distinguish everything through the night, which was perfectly clear. We could make out the increasing excitement on board the boat as the people, rushing to and fro, caused the deck lights to disappear and reappear as they passed in front of them.

This panic went on, it seemed, for an hour. Then suddenly the ship seemed to shoot up out of the water and stand there perpendicularly. It seemed to us that it stood upright in the water for four full minutes. Then it began to slide gently downwards. Its speed increased as it went down head first, so that the stern shot down with a rush. The lights continued to burn till it sank. We could see the people packed densely in the stern till it was gone. Gradually the screaming became fainter and died away. Some of the lifeboats might have gone to their rescue, but it would have meant those in the water swarming aboard and sinking her.

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TOMORROW

Death in ancient Greece

ENGLAND EXPECTS

October 21, 1805. Nelson sends the signal "England expects that every man this day will do his duty". I was on the poop and quarter-deck whilst preparations for the fight were going on, and saw Lord Nelson, Captain Blackwood, and some other Captains of the frigates, in earnest conversation together, and a ship of paper in the hand of the former (which Captain Blackwood had looked at), yet I have no recollection that I ever saw it pass through other hands till it was given to Pasco, after referring to the telegraph signal book, took it back to his Lordship, and it was then that, I believe, the substitution of the words took place. I think (though not sure), the substitution was "expects" for the word "confides", the latter not being in the telegraph book, and I think "England" had been previously substituted for "Nelson" for the same reason, at the suggestion of Captain Blackwood.

These articles are in The Faber Book of Reportage, edited by John Carey, published next week by Faber & Faber (£14.95).

TRENCH CARNAGE

At the Somme (July 1 - November 13, 1916) the British sustained 60,000 casualties on the first day. In October torrential rains turned the battlefield into a quagmire. By mid-November the Allies had advanced five miles at a cost of 450,000 German, 200,000 French and 420,000 British lives.

21st Clearing Station, Saturday, July 1, 7.30. The heavens and earth were rolling up, the crazy hour had begun, every gun we owned fired as hard as ever it could for more than an hour. From a hill near Veils over us to left and right great observation balloons hung, 18 in view. Aeroplanes dashed about, morning mist and gun smoke obscured the view.

We got back for a late breakfast and soon the wounded by German shells came in, then all day long cars of dying and wounded, but all cheerful for they told us of a day of glorious successes. They were literally piled up - beds gone, lucky to get space on floor of tent, but or ward, and though the surgeons work like Trojans many must yet die for lack of operation.

All the CCSs (Casualty Clearing Stations) are overflowing.

Later. We have 1,500 in and still they come. 300-400 officers, it is a sight - chaps with fearful wounds lying in agony, many so patient, some make a noise, one goes to a stretcher, lays one's hand on the forehead, it is cold, strike a match, he is dead - here a Communion, there an absolution, there a drink, there a madman, there a hot water bottle and so on - one madman was swearing and kicking. I gave him a drink, he tried to bite my hand and squirted the water from his mouth into my face - well, it is an experience beside which all previous experience pales. Oh I am tired, excuse writing.

July 2. What a day. I had no corner in the hospital even for Holy Communion. The Colonel said that no services might be under cover, fortunately it was fine so I rigged up my packing-case altar on a wood behind the sisters' camp. Then all day squatting or kneeling by stretchers administering Holy Communion, etc. Twice I went to bury, of course we used the trench we had prepared in a field adjoining. I first held a service of consecration, when I turned round the old man labouring in the field was on his knees in the soil.

I buried 37 but have some left over till tomorrow. Saddest place of all is the moribund ward, two large tents faced

together packed with dying officers and men, here they lie given up as hopeless, of course they do not know it. But I can't write. I am too tired and I have some patients' letters.

July 3. Now I know something of the horrors of war, the staff is redoubled but what of that. Imagine 1,000 badly wounded per diem. The surgeons are beginning to get sleep, because after working night and day they realize we may be at this for some months, as Verdun. We hear of great success but there are of course setbacks and one hears of ramparts of dead English and Germans.

Oh, if you could see our wards, tents, huts, crammed with terrible wounds - see the rows of abdominals and lung penetrations dying - you meet a compound fracture of femur walking about - in strict confidence, please, I got hold of some morphia and I go to that black hole of Calcutta (Moribund) and use it or I creep into the long tents where two or three hundred Germans lie, you can imagine what attention they get with our own neglected, the cries and groans are too much to withstand and I cannot feel less pity for them than for our own.

WHERI
MR!
This book...
All over the world...
The discovery of an attempt...
convicted Captain Hil...



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Mr Nigel Lawson's autumn statement yesterday contains the promise of tax cuts in the spring while maintaining a sound grip on the nation's finances. The Chancellor would have no doubt preferred to announce an unchanged target for next year's spending. This already allowed for a small real increase over the current year. But election promises intervened. The Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr John Major, has done well to limit the increase to £2.5 billion.

As it turns out, an increase in spending now looks more acceptable than ministers may have anticipated when the Chief Secretary began the discussions with his colleagues at the beginning of September. The falls in the stock market mean that the economy will grow more slowly next year as consumers rein back their spending and companies take a more cautious attitude to new investment. In these circumstances some increase in Government borrowing beyond the level which would otherwise have been appropriate is probably right. Although most of any increase will be needed to replace lost revenue some can perhaps be made available to finance higher public spending.

Government finances start from an extremely strong position. Public spending in the current year is now expected to be £500 million lower than planned, partly because local authorities and new towns have enjoyed bigger offsetting capital receipts. At the same time revenue is higher because of higher-than-expected oil prices and faster growth in the economy. Thus borrowing is likely to be only £1 billion compared with the planned level of £4 billion. Even if the Chancellor allows borrowing to rise a little next year it should still not rise much above his long-term aim of 1 per cent of national income.

The Chancellor has also been conservative

in setting bigger than usual reserves for the later years of the survey — £7 billion and £10.5 billion compared with the £3.5 billion in the coming year. That is the nearest we have to a promise that increases in the planning total are not going to become a way of life during this Parliament. Even taking the increases in spending into account, faster growth in the economy means that spending will go on falling as a proportion of national income.

For the time being the fiscal prospect is fair. Tax cuts should continue to be possible in relative financial safety. There are no certainties in Budget-making, however. Mr Lawson now prefers not to give any estimate in the autumn statement of what scope may be available to him. The economic landscape has changed radically in the last fortnight, making March seem a long way away.

In detail the spending decisions look to be a sound blend of the popular and the necessary. Spending on the Health Service is to rise by £700 million next year and on education by £630 million. Social security and local government also get a big rise, despite the decision to peg child benefit. (The rise in social security comes partly because of the cost of compensating the poorer contributors to the poll tax.) Defence is also increased by £230 million next year and £490 million the year after, but there is a modest cut in spending on agriculture.

Further evaluation of the Government's selection of spending priorities will have to await more information from individual departments and the public expenditure White Paper in January. With the next election still a long way off, the Government has a good opportunity to lift the veil higher than usual on its thought processes in determining public spending and on the value for money or otherwise which is being achieved in different corners of the public sector.

MR PARKINSON'S SHOCK

The prospect of sharp rises in electricity prices — just under 10 per cent soon and possibly more later — spoiled the Chancellor's economic message for delegates departing from the Confederation of British Industry's conference in Glasgow. As the CBI director-general, Mr John Banham, noted, a 10 per cent rise would cost industry around £600 million a year, equivalent to a permanent 2 per cent rise in interest rates. It will not please the public either.

The cuts in external finance limits and higher required rates of return for the electricity supply industry need, therefore, careful justification. That is likely to prove an awkward political problem. However much Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, would like to do so, it is impossible to divorce the policy changes that will bring higher prices from his plans to privatize the industry.

Electricity prices have risen less than inflation in recent years, but it would be hard to explain a sharp jump in terms of the price of fuel, which makes up 60 per cent of trading costs. The Central Electricity Generating Board has forecast that these will rise 0.5 per cent in the current financial year.

The Government has two ostensible purposes: to justify the CEGB investing £40 billion in ten new power stations and to raise extra cash to build them. "These need to be built and the money will have to be found", Mrs Thatcher said yesterday.

This begs a number of questions. The CEGB's capital spending has fallen of late, in part due to the hiatus in ordering power stations while the nuclear question was decided. It will now need to rise sharply. It would be normal for that investment to be met chiefly by loans, provided the likely returns are high enough. But so long as electricity remains in the public sector, the Treasury will be minded to cut public spending by taxing customers through prices — one of the best arguments for privatization.

To that extent, the forced price rises may re-

fect old thinking rather than, as the Opposition assumed, a desire to fatten up the industry's profits to increase privatization revenue. Whether the industry is public or private, however, investment needs to be economically justified by future profits.

Neither the current target rate of return, 2.75 per cent before interest, nor the new target of 4.75 per cent by 1989-90 looks good by normal standards. But this is inflation accounting, which assumes that the CEGB's assets, including power stations that are barely used, are valued at today's prices rather than what was paid for them. On the conventional historic basis, profits of £1.1 billion imply that the return could be as high as 12 per cent.

Even that would be inadequate. There are two main reasons. As a result of successive governments' policies, the industry pays about £500 million more for coal than it might do in a free market. The CEGB has also been reckless with its capital spending. It has concentrated on building huge power stations with a high capital cost and this bias is even greater with nuclear stations. Moreover, its record of building power stations has been poor. Delays have added greatly to costs.

One of the main reasons for having competition in electricity generation when the industry is privatized is to force the CEGB to end its cavalier attitude to investment. No doubt potential competitors would like higher electricity prices and potential profits. But there is a difference between demanding higher returns on new investment and earning higher monopoly profits on the old.

There has been little clamour for higher prices among those anxious for a competitive electricity industry. Indeed, raising prices to encourage competition would be self-defeating. What is more, the CEGB itself regards freedom in purchasing coal as an essential feature of a competitive privatized industry. This would have a far greater impact in reducing electricity costs than any change in the industry's structure.

developing a nuclear weapon. Last month Congress suspended aid to Pakistan for six weeks.

From the Pakistani Government's point of view, all this is made worse by the steady rapprochement between India — Pakistan's sub-continental rival — and the United States. Although this has been advancing since Mr Rajiv Gandhi succeeded his mother in 1984, it has significantly leapt ahead after Mr Gandhi's visit to Washington last month. On that occasion the United States agreed to provide India with an advanced computer and a high-powered engine for a domestically produced combat aeroplane. At a commercial level, the deal was evidence of the improving trade relations between the two countries. But on the political plane it signalled a new understanding which permitted the US to overlook its traditional security concerns in selling the computer.

Thus relations have become more intimate between the world's most powerful democracy and the world's largest. This means that United States' relations with Pakistan — which is not a democracy — are bound to falter. That will be the unstated price India will extract for opening its markets more to American enterprise. As the US Democratic Party's influence over Reagan Administration policy grows, that price will be one which Washington could be increasingly willing to pay.

This naturally discomforts the Zia regime. Without American political support and certainly without economic aid, the General will be more vulnerable to domestic political pressures. So far he has kept the Americans on his side by playing the Afghan card. But if that is no longer possible his hold over Pakistan could weaken. Worse still, US pressure for him to follow India's democratic example may grow.

Threat to Sarawak's tribal forests

From Mr Anthony Brooke
Sir, The political crackdown in Malaysia, condemned by the Roman Catholic Church there as "immoral" and by Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia's first Prime Minister, as "leading to dictatorship", has particularly disturbing implications for Sarawak, where issues of human rights, environmental preservation and administrative corruption are joined together and now thrust into sharp relief.

It is a matter of serious concern that Harrison Ngau, director and co-ordinator of Sarawak Friends of the Earth, is among those arrested and detained indefinitely without trial under the Internal Security Act, together with other environmental leaders, including Ms Meenakshi Raman, one of Malaysia's leading community rights lawyers (report, October 31).

Harrison Ngau leads the legal and public fight to help the Penan and other tribal people in Sarawak defend their lands, livelihood and rights against the logging companies which have been destroying the 150-million-year-old rain forest at a greater rate than anywhere else in the world.

This crisis takes place against the background of forestry concessions owned mainly by Sarawak politicians favourable to the

present government, their relatives or their companies, worth at least \$22 billion. Government officials are involved in an evident conflict of interest with their official positions, some of them holding ministerial posts.

In the light of these revelations it is difficult not to feel apprehensive with regard to future developments in what until now has been a relatively peaceful corner of the globe. What may not be a frustrated people do when deprived of sound and sympathetic advice and when legal remedies are no longer effective against the barbarous encroachment and blatant "legalised" exploitation and greed of foreign companies?

Is it not asking for trouble when the spokesmen/women of our planetary environment are prevented from speaking up for a caring, conscientious and humane conservation policy?

It is earnestly to be hoped that steps will immediately be taken either to release Harrison Ngau and his colleagues or at the very least to bring them to trial without delay so that they can defend themselves in open court.

Yours etc,
ANTHONY BROOKE (former Rajah Muda of Sarawak),
Melbourne,
Brooklyn Road, Woking, Surrey,
November 2.

Royal succession

From Mr Tony Marlow, MP for Northampton North (Conservative)
Sir, In modern society institutions must develop to strengthen themselves, and sometimes to survive. At the moment no institution is more highly valued or respected than the monarchy. This does not mean that change should not be considered.

Male primogeniture has been the rule for succession to the Throne since the time of William the Conqueror. Under today's circumstances it may no longer be appropriate. Certainly it would be a subject of constitutional controversy had the Princess Royal been born before the Prince of Wales.

Currently the monarchy is totally secure. However, if the succession were to pass to a reluctant or unsuitable heir at such a time as Parliament was domi-

nated by a party with left-wing and republican tendencies it would be in dire jeopardy. A 21st-century Edward VIII under the social and political conditions then likely to exist could spell the end of the monarchy.

Now, while Her Majesty has 20 or so years to reign, may be an appropriate time to consider whether an alternative system of succession within the Royal Family may secure the most suitable heir and therefore more durable. If in the next century a problem should arise it may otherwise be too late to solve it.

To debate such an issue of principle should not imply criticism of any individual. I add that with a background of 11 years' Army service I am and will remain dedicated to the monarch and the monarchy.

Yours sincerely,
TONY MARLOW,
House of Commons.

Famine in Ethiopia

From Mrs Hannah Yilma
Sir, In your edition of today (October 22) you quote Oxfam as forecasting another major famine in Ethiopia round about the turn of the year. My unhappy country has already suffered, as you report, appalling conditions in 1984-85 and then received most generous aid from the West.

There is now a high-level Ethiopian government delegation due to arrive in England, led by one of the vice-presidents, Fisahe Desta, accompanied by three ministers of the State Council who have responsibilities in economic, financial and social affairs. Their mission is to persuade the British Government to further increase its aid to Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian Government has pursued a series of economic policies against international advice which have had desperate consequences for Ethiopians. Further, the human rights record — as documented by Ethiopian organisations and Amnesty International, among others — is one of the worst in the world.

Bombings in Gulf

From the Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq
Sir, I read the report (October 14) covering the savage action committed by the Iranian regime against a primary Iraqi school by launching a surface-to-surface missile on a civilian target.

Mr Fisk did not seem to me really moved by the recent criminal act by the Khomani regime in attacking children and their primary school. To my surprise, he went so far as to bring in the alleged use of chemical weapons by Iraq, in order, apparently, to minimize the gravity or even to give justification to the Iranian action.

I would like to remind you that we have never attacked civilian

targets. Iraqi attacks were confined purely to military and economic targets. Such actions, as you know, are the only measures of legitimate self-defence in view of the fact that Iran has not only refused all Security Council resolutions but has also continued its defiance of the international community by its persistent attacks on the Iraqi sovereignty and territorial integrity, on international maritime traffic in the Gulf and on neutral countries such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Iraq, on the other hand, has accepted all resolutions of the Security Council since the beginning of the Iranian aggression against Iraq on September 4, 1980. Yours faithfully,
M. S. AL-MASHAT,
Embassy of the Republic of Iraq,
2 Queen's Gate, SW7,
October 27.

Construction move

From the President of the Institution of Structural Engineers
Sir, The letter from Mr Peter Cox (October 16) brings into public focus the proposal to form within the construction industry a Building Industries Council. He also highlights an overlap of activity between two of our major engineering institutions, the institutions of structural and of civil engineers.

Like many other expenditure patterns, those in the construction industry are changing. Currently, it is believed, some 80 per cent of national construction is in building, instead of the more historic division of 50 per cent heavy civil engineering and 50 per cent building.

The proposal to form a Building Industries Council reflects this pattern. It comes from senior members of the architects (RIBA), builders (CIOB), building services engineers (CIBSE) and the structural engineers (ISE), although it is hoped that the quantity-surveying division of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors will also join this initial group, to be

followed by other bodies who share their aims and objectives.

It is an endeavour to get the members of the building industry to speak with one voice and be outward-looking, by giving service to society, business and the professions. The council will seek to advise Government on national building policy and promote and encourage the export of the services of the industry.

Mr Cox's concern about the Institution of Civil Engineers not being included in this initial grouping fails to recognise that the principal activities of that institution outside building and that those of its members who are involved are, for the main part, also members of the "building" institutes.

If there is a rift between these two institutions (and I do not believe this to be the case) then recognition and respect for the skills each have will enable sensible relationships to be restored. Yours faithfully,
KEITH WHITE, President,
The Institution of Structural Engineers,
11 Upper Belgrave Street, SW1,
October 18.

Consequences of Nazi-Soviet pact

From Dr W. T. Bartoszewski
Sir, Professor Kiernan's article (October 28) contains so many historical misinterpretations that it would require another article to answer them all. I shall therefore restrict myself to one particular claim: "Without the Soviet Union there would have been no firm barrier to a fascist takeover of Europe".

In fact the German takeover of Poland and Western Europe was greatly facilitated by the close military, economic and political support given by Stalin to Hitler between August/September, 1939, and June 21, 1941. The so-called "non-aggression pact" and the forgotten "Boundary and Friendship Treaty" of September 28, 1939, enabled the Nazis to transfer all but a handful of their divisions to the western front.

The Soviets provided naval facilities and cooperated with the Germans in the extermination of the Polish elites in an attempt to suppress any anti-Nazi activity. The agreement of February 10, 1940, guaranteed the Germans large supplies of food and raw materials, thus bypassing the British blockade.

These supplies continued until the German invasion of the Soviet

Union and actually increased towards the end. As V. Molotov said: "Soviet-German relations were based on a firm foundation of mutual interest". He also claimed that it was "criminal" to wage war against Nazi Germany "camouflaged as a fight for 'democracy'".

Communist parties in Europe accepted this reasoning until Operation Barbarossa. It was only when under a surprise attack that the Soviet Union entered the war against fascism and in this they were considerably helped by western resources.

Far from providing an "epoch-making service to Europe and humanity" by their 21-month support of the Nazis they indirectly caused the deaths and suffering of millions of their own people, and then went on to subjugate half the nations of Europe (an arrangement not unlike the original terms of the agreement made with Hitler).

Yours faithfully,
WŁADYSŁAW T. BARTOSZEWSKI,
St Antony's College, Oxford,
October 30.

ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 4 1918

With the end of the First World War in sight Allied advances seemed to be reported every day, on the other side of the hill it was quite otherwise, as The Times reported from Vienna

SURRENDER OF AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. ARMISTICE SIGNED YESTERDAY.

The War: 5th Year: 93rd Day.

Austria-Hungary has surrendered. The news was received in London yesterday afternoon in the form of a telephone message from the Prime Minister in Paris. General Diaz, the Italian Commander-in-Chief, signed an armistice yesterday afternoon. It will take effect to-day at 3 o'clock.

The armistice terms are not known yet. The Prime Minister's message states that they will be published to-morrow. A wireless message from Vienna yesterday announced that "in the Italian theatre of war" the Austrian troops had "ceased hostilities on the basis of an armistice which has been concluded." It added that the conditions of the armistice would be "issued separately".

The French-American attack from the Upper Aisne to the Meuse, which began on Friday, has made great progress. On Saturday night the French reported the capture of Semuy and of the southern bank of the Canal des Ardennes from Semuy to Neuville.

By yesterday afternoon the French and Americans had advanced from seven to eight miles on a front of about 30 miles. They held Neuville, Les Alleux, and Noirlu, had entered Buzancy, were in the forest north of Nouart, and had taken the Bois de Taillay, and the woods north-west of Dun, on the Meuse. The French reported last night that the Argonne was completely clear of the enemy.

The importance of this advance is very great. It is a direct threat to the Metz-Charleville railway, which passes through Montmedy and is the main line of supply for the German Armies on the Upper Aisne, the Serre, and the Upper Oise. . . .

GLOOM AND PRIVATION.

VIENNA'S TERRIBLE FLIGHT.

(From our special correspondent.)

THE HAGUE, Nov. 1. The situation in Vienna is thus described by a neutral who left there last Friday and arrived here on Wednesday, after breaking his journey in Germany.

Of Vienna's famous gaiety and life absolutely nothing remains. To use it is a mystery how the population survives at all. It is really starving. You see nose pinched and drawn faces. I was there for about 10 days, and during the whole of that time demonstrations were constantly being held, generally twice a day. These comprised many thousands of persons including male and female workers, wounded soldiers, and many soldiers on leave. The demonstrators carry banners, on which are inscribed: "We want peace." "Down with the war." Leaflets in favour of peace are distributed. Thousands of people take part in these processions, which pass unhindered through the main streets of the city. Hanging on to the outskirts of the crowd are the hoodlums of the city, who commit all kinds of outrages — looting, smashing windows, and even setting fire to houses.

Nearly all the shops are closed and the windows boarded up to prevent pillage. A few shops open for a couple of hours daily. You cannot get a meal at a restaurant, for food does not exist. If you ask for a glass of beer, you get a small one for 18 pence, and everything procurable — which is not very much — is charged for at proportionate prices. You see no taxicabs, and only a very few motor-cars, which belong chiefly to the diplomatic representatives, although you occasionally see carriages drawn by small Russian horses, which apparently belong to the wealthier classes. No one goes to the theatres or places of entertainment. Vienna has hardly any lights at night. Few people are to be seen after 7 in the evening, and by 9 the capital resembles a city of the dead. . . .

WEDNESDAY PAGE

What kind of financial reform will really benefit women? Maggie Drummond reports

A taxing time for women

Jacqui Lait would like everyone to know that she is not an extreme feminist, nor even, as the tabloids would have it, a "tax rebel". Mrs Lait, you might recall, was the delegate who stood up at the recent Conservative Party conference and suggested that it was a bit much that Mrs Thatcher, Prime Minister though she is, has to get Denis to sign her tax returns. Mrs Lait's actual suggestion on tax reform went virtually unreported, lost in the scramble to get the reaction of the Prime Minister's consort. None the less it impressed Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who said yes, he was going to initiate tax reform soon.

However, there have been two Green Papers on the subject in the last eight years, lots of talk and no action. Everyone is agreed that the practice of taxing a married woman's income from savings as though it were a husband's is iniquitous and many are hoping the Chancellor will do something about this, if nothing else, in his next Budget.

Less simple is the problem of the married man's allowance. The problem is what to replace it with.

According to Andrew Dilnot of the Institute of Fiscal Studies, Mr Lawson is likely to plump for a half-way house that pleases no one in particular. The IFS believes that abolishing the married man's allowance and making all payments in child benefit would be the cheapest and simplest way of helping families with children. But this does not fit with the short-term desire for public spending cuts and the pledge of lower taxation. The decision by John Moore, the Secretary for Social Services, to freeze child benefit indicates a testing of the water as to the likely repercussions of a decision to abandon it completely. It also indicates a contempt for women, who will, after all, be the prime losers.

We asked five women MPs — and Jacqui Lait whose question set the ball rolling — what they think should be done about both the taxation of married women and child benefit.



Jacqui Lait Conservative Party conference delegate

6 We should have much, much higher personal allowances and do away with both the married man's allowance and the idea of transferability. Cash support for families should be given through the new family credit system that comes in next April, which will

deliver benefits where they are needed rather than on a blanket basis. Male politicians seem hooked on the idea of transferable tax allowances for couples — which reflects their fundamental feelings that wives should stay at home. 9

Teresa Gorman
Conservative
Member of
Parliament
for
Billericay

6 I'd like to go back to the medieval tithe system, when everyone paid a tenth of what they earned. If we are going to have a system of allowances, however, we must separate husbands and wives for tax purposes. And real tax equality between men and women means that if a man can set the cost of a secretary against his tax bill a woman should be able to do the same with anyone she employs to help with the house or the children. I agree with full transferability that gives wives choice in whether they work or not. 9

Ann Widdecombe
Conservative
Member of
Parliament
for
Maidstone

6 Married people should be taxed as if they were single, and if a wife chooses not to earn, then her allowance should be transferable to her husband. If he is supporting the family then I think that it is reasonable that he should get the relief through his pay packet. What is terribly wrong is the tax incentive against marriage — in the way that a couple can claim £60,000 of mortgage interest relief if they remain unwed, but only £30,000 between them if they get married. 9

Emma Nicholson
Conservative
Member of
Parliament
for Devon and
Torridge

6 I am in favour of fully transferable tax allowances which honour the right of a wife to stay at home, but this option now seems to have disappeared. I am not in favour of helping families through increased child benefit instead, because this would mean merging the tax and benefit systems — we would argue about that for years. I have already asked the Government to reconsider the taxing of employers' creches as a benefit in kind. There should be tax relief for paid help for children in the home. 9

Rosie Barnes
SDP
Member of
Parliament
for
Greenwich

6 The married man's allowance should be phased out, but in such a way that older couples, where the wife has never worked, do not suffer. I would like an integrated system of tax and benefit that establishes a minimum income for families and does away with the present system of piecemeal social security payments. I'm in favour of transferable tax allowances where the wife isn't working. To try how to treat child benefit as a social security benefit is scandalous. 9

Jo Richardson
Labour
Member of
Parliament
for
Barking

6 I am in favour of completely independent taxation alongside the compensatory measures for the low paid. Transferable tax allowances really undermine the feeling that encouraging women's financial independence is a bad thing. The answer is to redistribute the married man's allowance to carers in the form of higher child benefit which gives married women some financial independence; but I am not particularly thrilled by the notion of well-heeled families getting tax relief on their nannies. 9

Cosy once again

After the glitz of starring in a soap, Stephanie Beacham is joining the cast of the RSC



Stephanie Beacham: forced into reluctant stardom

Cosy is not an adjective that readily springs to mind to describe Stephanie Beacham. But it is the word that Beacham, back in Britain to play opposite Jeremy Irons in the RSC production of *The Rover* (which opens at the Mermaid Theatre today) repeatedly uses in connection with herself.

The star of *The Colbys*, *Connie and Tenko* insists that beneath the glossy exterior lurks "a cosy convent girl, destined by her upbringing to be a cosy wife and mother" had not fate (in the shape of separation from her husband, the actor John McEnery) given her an uncanny shove.

"Somebody has to grow up when you have children, and I knew it had to be me," she says meaningfully. "It's funny: children ruin your life, and they become the most important thing to live for — they put it all into perspective."

Being left on her own with two toddlers (Phoebe, now 12, and Chloe, 10) and suddenly having to be a breadwinner, forced her into stardom, she believes. She has worked hard, triumphing over the challenges of single-parenthood and the spectre of deafness — she has been deaf in one ear since infancy. She lipreads skilfully to supplement her partial hearing, but recalls with regret that she was the cause of the sacking of three sound engineers in California before it was discovered that her deafness, not their deafness, was the root of a seemingly inexplicable problem with the synchronization of the sound.

The role of Sable Colby brought her money (a reported \$20,000 an episode), security and international fame. Now Aphra Behn's feminist Restoration romp, in which she takes the part of the courtesan of Antigua Bianca, is bringing her a little anxiety. "The rest of the cast is rather relaxed and jolly because they've done it before at

Straford," Beacham explains. She tends to be a worrier, she says, and there is so much to learn.

"If my marriage hadn't been so frightful, I wouldn't be doing this," she says. "We bought a seven-bedroom house and I thought I was going to have seven children to fill the house and that his

'The whole idea was so cosy, I said yes at once'

work was going to be the most important thing and mine would fit in around it."

She remembers her eager reaction to Irons's telephone call suggesting that she join the cast of *The Rover* at extremely short notice: "The whole idea of doing a stage play with the RSC was so cosy, so of course I said yes at once."

Beacham's daughters are at boarding school in England. "The *Triumvirate*," as she refers to herself, Phoebe and Chloe, "decided no more nannies — since we had a horrid one who frightened all of us to death."

Her daughters already share

her attraction to the theatre; they spent Easter in Paris with her, where she was filming *Napoleon and Josephine* for Warner Brothers. "No, I don't play Josephine," she says, stalling the inevitable question. "I play her friend, Thérèse Tallien, the woman who was responsible for keeping that wretched empire-line going because she was constantly pregnant. She had 10 children and was never certain who the father was."

She took some time to get used to the life of an American soap star, and the make-up artists who fingered imaginary pads of fat above her eyes and recommended plastic surgery she says, squinting nevertheless to make sure the light is "Dynasty Light" — sun not visible on her nose — for her photograph. But the money was heavenly, she agrees.

Despite eight years' separation, she has never bothered to get divorced. "Partly because John and I both loathed each other, and partly because I didn't want anyone to feel I was 'on the market'," she says. "But I really must get around to doing it. It's on my list: must get the shoes cleaned, must get a divorce..."

Victoria McKee

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Money, madam?

Anyone newly nervous of the stock market who is looking for smart investments would be wise to visit the "Money 87 Show" which is on at Olympia from Thursday to Sunday. A bigger than ever female turnout is anticipated because, as Nicola Brooksbank (from exhibitors N. M. Schroder Financial Management) explains: "We are finding women comprise more and more of our investors; in a recent unit trust issue called the Ethical Conscience Fund — which does not invest in

companies who are involved in tobacco or alcohol production, or in countries where there are oppressive regimes — more than 50 per cent of subscribers were female." Free advice on pensions, tax, unit trusts, bank accounts, life assurance and every other financial option will be on hand, from 250 exhibitors, and the organizers promise that there will be "no hard sell".

A helping hand

When children's storyteller Judy Blume first put pen to paper 20 years ago, she had no idea that her 13 best-sellers would unleash a 2,000-letter-a-month "torrent of correspondence, sackfuls from

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

children who are depressed, unhappy, confused". She has now collected many of the missives in *Letters to Judy* (Pan, £2.95), and through the establishment of a charitable trust called the Kids Fund (to which royalties from the book are donated), designed to improve communication between parents and children, she "no longer feels quite so helpless when I read what they

write. There are two aims in this book, one is comfort and reassurance for the child, the other is awareness for the adult." She hopes that parents and children will read the book together. "But the saddest thing is that the very children who need reassurance are the ones whose parents wouldn't dream of reading it to them."

Fine footwork

A little considered sartorial problem — big feet — is now being catered for by a mail-order catalogue from Crispins, which specializes in shoe sizes 8-11. Crispins's founder Dawne Gutteridge has scoured Europe for classic and

stylish shoes (it also caters for very narrow feet, from 4-11) which she hopes will enable anyone unable to visit the Manchester or London shops "to wear pretty, fashionable styles, perhaps for the first time. I still hear horror stories about 16-year-old girls who are dispatched to the men's departments like freaks". Crispins's Buypost catalogue is available free, by writing to Royal Exchange Shopping Centre, St Anne's Square, Manchester M2S 7DB or by phoning 061 833 0022. They will refund your money if mail-ordered shoes do not fit, and also offer "length-tested" tight.

Josephine Fairley

Taste of 1875

Readers who take up our Liberty offer may think that time has stood still

Certain parts of Liberty's Regent Street store look as though time has stood still since 1875, when the shop's founder Arthur Lasenby Liberty first demonstrated his taste for a "modification of ancient Celtic forms supplemented by floral and plant motifs" (writes sale room correspondent Sarah Jane Checkland). Up under the Tudor eaves, is the Art and Crafts Movement furniture, real or repro, both eminently collectable. The newly launched pewter and silver Hera Collection, based on 100-year-old Liberty designs, provide gifts with classic appeal.

On November 24 and December 1 *The Times* and *Liberty* invite you to enjoy Liberty's sense of style and shop at your leisure in their stores nationwide, when the doors will be closed to the public between 6.30pm and 8.30pm. Each of Liberty's 11 stores will be featuring a free draw, with prizes including a £100 Liberty gift voucher. London's Regent Street shop will offer special activities and the opportunity to meet *Times* experts such as Sarah Jane Checkland. Four ensembles from the Chelsea Symphony Orchestra will provide music.

To take up our invitation, complete the coupon below. One ticket is required for each adult and we reserve the right to allocate another date if the maximum numbers are reached. Send the completed coupon to *The Times*/Liberty Shopping Evening, PO Box 175, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 2WA to arrive by no later than Wednesday, November 18.

The shopping evenings will be held at the following Liberty stores: Regent Street, London; New Bond Street, Bath; Trinity Street, Cambridge; Burgess, Canterbury; George Street, Edinburgh; Buchanan Street, Glasgow; High Street (Market Street entrance of Army & Navy), Guildford; Kings Street, Manchester; London Road, Norwich; High Street, Oxford; and Dargate, York.

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THE ARTS

Bland
Essex
WOWS

Last month *This Week* (Times) reported amusingly on the scarcely credible news that *The Star* had gone down-market. Yesterday afternoon *James Robinson Meets...* (also *Times*) profiled David Sullivan, the porn baron whose alliance with United Newspapers effected this millennial change.

Reclining Hefesque in his bizarre furnished Essex mansion - black suede walls, twinkling lamp, Pharaoh-size bed - the millionaire chocolate addict held forth on his "philosophy" and career.

TELEVISION

Early ambitions to captain Cardiff FC were fuelled into selling old football programmes at the age of ten, he saw his first "naked lady" a dozen years later; his brief prison term was culminated by the sight of warders poring over his interesting magazines. Oh yes, and Mike Gabbert is "the sharpest, shrewdest man I've ever met in my life."

From behind the vast dishes of her spectacles (which, we can now reveal, she wears even when swimming), Miss Robinson battled gamely to scratch the bland surface of her subject's public persona. But it was obvious that Mr Sullivan could have kept up his complacent platitudes until the cows came home. Whether or not the chickens will ever come home is another matter: as a wealthy Tory voter with woolly political ambitions ("I'd like to be a voice for moderation and compromise"), it can only be a matter of time before he is knighted for services to industry.

Taking sex seriously is a thing we traditionally leave to other cultures. When the explorer John Seely began pottering about the abandoned temples of India in 1810, he was predictably shocked by the more pronounced erotic features of sacred statuary. *Footsteps* (BBC2) had David Drew uncomfortably filling Seely's boots as he watched devotees assist a particularly impressive Shiva phallus, or submitted to the invasive ministrations of a village enprofher.

The viewer may well have sympathized with this specialist's search for something that simply was not there: with so much travelogue and so little direct information - let alone imagination - the series is beginning to look like the Ghost without Hamlet.

Martin Cropper

A film with a view

Simon Banner speaks to James Ivory about his new film, *Maurice*

When any film catches on and has such a great appeal to so many people," says director James Ivory, musing on the success of *A Room With A View*, "I think it must be satisfying some secret craving that hasn't been satisfied for a very long time, though it would be hard to say exactly what that craving was."

Hard to say or not, James Ivory's tale of repressed northerners blissfully redeemed by a beaker full of the warm south must certainly be judged to have answered some sort of need at the box-office. Where previous offerings from the quarter-century-old Merchant Ivory Productions - *The Bostonians* and *Heat And Dust* for example - won respectful reviews followed by arthouse engagements and modest financial returns, *A Room With A View* charmed its way to general release and very considerable profits.

It was not an easy act to follow and James Ivory's decision to bring another Forster novel to the screen might have smacked either of clear-eyed commercial calculation or a certain loss of nerve were it not for the fact that his choice was *Maurice*. It initially looked rather more like a reckless tempting of fate. Forster wrote his novel of troubled homosexual love in 1914 but suppressed its publication until after his death because of its autobiographical element (it appeared for the first time in 1971).

The cardboard cut-out nature of its characters, its unsatisfactory conclusion and general long-

windedness would have been equally good reasons for its suppression. Although with some smart editing of his source, fast paced, vivid performances from his lead actors, and, above all, a saving tone of gentle irony, James Ivory precludes similar objections being made to his screen version of *Maurice*.

"I certainly had no plan at the end of making *A Room With A View* to do another Forster film," he explains. "No plan to do another period film of any sort. I began rereading all of Forster while we were shooting *Room* and when I eventually got to *Maurice*, I was struck by how good and interesting the book seemed in many ways, even though there were some obvious problems with it."

"I know, for example, that by the time Forster wrote his final set of notes to *Maurice*, way back in the Fifties, he believed that perhaps it was rather dated. That didn't bother me much and in fact I felt the novel was quite contemporary. Despite all the things that have happened since the time that Forster wrote the book people today who are in the same situation as Maurice finds himself in still have to face up to what they are and devise some means of living in a happy and dignified way with themselves. So the emotions and the things people are going through in the novel are completely contemporary. Nothing's changed. And that's what interested me most about it."

Even if James Ivory was convinced of the novel's potentialities though, the fellows of King's

College Cambridge, to whom Forster left the rights to his works, were initially somewhat wary of having the renowned author's controversial novel of boy-meeting-boy, boy-losing-boy, and boy-ending-up-with-gamekeeper brought to the big screen. "I think," suggests Ivory, "that they felt that the book didn't do any great service to Forster's memory or reputation so it should therefore perhaps be allowed to lie and collect dust."

Still, the Merchant Ivory partnership succeeded where other filmmakers who had attempted to buy the rights to *Maurice* had not. And they even got permission to film within King's College itself, turning students and fellows out of their rooms in the process.

Originally Julian Sands, the blond hero of *A Room With A View*, and subsequently one of the stars of *Ken Russell's* *Guinevere* was to have taken the title role of *Maurice*, but, says James Ivory, with a look of bemusement, "he suddenly announced that he couldn't possibly do it and ran off to Los Angeles." James Wilby, who took his place, had done a walk-on in *A Room With A View*, while Hugh Grant, cast as Clive, Maurice's fellow undergraduate and first love, had been pipped at the post by Daniel Day-Lewis for the role of the priggish Cecil in the same film.

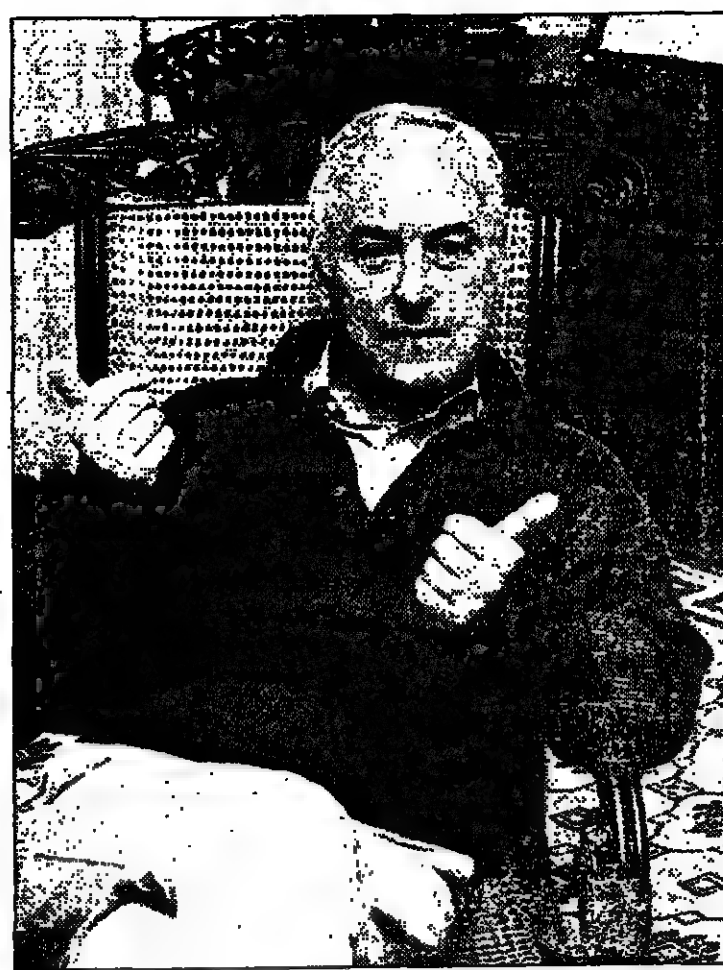
Wilby and Grant have already shared the prize for Best Actor at the Venice Film Festival for their performances in *Maurice*. "Somebody told me," said the American

Ivory approvingly, "that no one in England has spoken with Hugh's accent for fifty years now. I'm not sure how he came by it."

James Ivory hopes to reunite even more members of his previous casts for a film whose screenplay is currently being written and which is scheduled to go into production early next year. "I had an idea about doing a film all about making a film," he explains, "in which as many people as possible from our other movies play the parts of crew members and agents and critics and types like that while at the centre there would be a couple of unknown actors playing the stars."

Before that though Merchant Ivory are set to make a film adaptation of Tania Janowitz's cultish collection of short stories, *Slaves Of New York*. "It plugs into my own feelings about surviving in New York," says Ivory.

"We're self-sufficient and we don't do any grandiose films that cost huge amounts of money and could kill us. We just do film after film costing around £2m, each one with a real chance of making some money. Since *A Room With A View* there have been a lot of offers from people in Hollywood, but not the kind of movies we wanted to do. In fact they've offered us the kind of movies we've spent 25 years not making. You wouldn't believe it. And you know if we'd gone to them with a script like *Maurice* and said this is what we wanted to do now, I think they'd have looked at us like we were crazy."



James Ivory: 25 years of respectful reviews for Merchant Ivory films

6 I reread Forster when we were shooting *Room With A View* and when I got to *Maurice*, it struck me how interesting and good it was - despite some obvious problems

Fierce intensity

DANCE

Eiko and Koma
ICA

Patience is a necessary virtue when watching Eiko and Koma. Still, as we have waited six years for a second look at their extraordinary art, we have had opportunity to practice that.

The dance they bring this time is called *Grain*, and little heaps of small hard seeds share the platform with the dancers, to be scattered at intervals with a sudden sharp kick or a soft lavish gesture. But the point of the dance is the sowing of seed in a more erotic sense; it is a love duet leading to its "right true end" in a passionate embrace.

Except for a couple of naked bottoms at the beginning, there is no more nudity than you can see on most beaches, and the action is more symbolic than realistic. Indeed, for most of its length the action is

advanced by just one of the dancers at a time extensively developing a short circumscribed group of movements to suggest a particular feeling.

Everything is done slowly, carefully, but a sense of urgency builds up in spite - no, because they never show haste. The result is that when they do come together there is a fierce intensity even to a slow quiet gesture. As in *Fur Seal*, which they brought last time, their hands are held strangely to convey emotion, here a claw-like shape that hints at inner tension.

At the end of this choreographic epiphany, the symbols become more specific. Eiko crams some kind of cooked seed greedily into her mouth while Koma embraces her from behind, and finally his arm falls suddenly to snuff the two candles that light their bed. Less strange, perhaps less compelling than *Fur Seal*, *Grain* is still individual and striking. We should see more of their work.

John Percival



Dame Hilda Brackett: a sinister grin like a louché letterbox

Deadly earnest

THEATRE

The Importance
of Being Earnest
Whitehall Theatre

There are many ways of killing a fine play and camping it to death is not the worst, but still it is a sort of dying. As was to be expected, this is the fate suffered by Wilde's masterpiece in the tough hands of Dame Hilda Brackett. A more delicate grip is applied by the Dame's well-known companion, Dr Evadne Hinge, but from this encounter between players and play all parties emerge scathed.

The adaptation by Lou Stein, who also directs, places the play in the Hinge/Brackett sitting room where a performance is to be given for the entertainment of a group of friends. Dame Hilda eases herself onto the stage to tell us this, moving with her curiously angular sway in a frock patterned with golden byzantine, and directing upon us the famous sinister grin that splits her jaw open to resemble a particularly louché letterbox.

Two youngish lads next appear, already sporting 1890s waistcoats, soon to be followed by a purse-tipped Dr Evadne in frosty blue.

So far so obvious. Brackett will be Lady Bracknell and Hinge Miss Prism. Unfortunately these two characters do not appear on stage together until the famous meeting in Act Three but this problem is solved with a neat cheek I can only admire.

The actresses due to play Gwendolen and Cecily telephone to say they have been held up at Victoria Station

(the Brighton line) and Dame H and Dr E are obliged to play those parts as well. One or other of them is therefore on stage for most of the evening and they form three successive partnerships: Lady Bracknell with Gwendolen, Cecily with Miss Prism, and Cecily with Gwendolen.

Evadne makes a charming Gwendolen, troubled by a teacup that cannot be disposed of, and squinting at the script pinned to her dainty handbag, but when not looking for laughs by those devices giving a credible performance of the part as written. Her Prism is less funny.

Hilda plays determinedly for laughs. Her Bracknell wriggles her hips, her Cecily is winsome, heaving her eyelids as she rests against an arch of roses, which inevitably leans crazily at her touch, and uttering her lines in a quaint falsetto. I found this a trying performance.

I have no space to mention the supporting performers, who are lucky to be passed over in silence.

Jeremy Kingston

Irving Wardle

LAST 2 PERFS TONIGHT & SAT at 7.30
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Last Summer
in Chulimsk
Arts Theatre,
Cambridge

Alexander Vampilov is said to have given much pleasure to Soviet theatre-goers since his premature death in 1972; but on the evidence of this piece, his work only offers renewed confirmation that the harsher the political life of any country, the blander will be its representation on stage.

Last Summer in Chulimsk is an echo-chamber of 19th-century Russian drama, scaled down to a state of complete harmlessness. We are out in Vampilov's native Siberia, where a group of local residents congregate at Anna's rustic cafe and spend the day boozing, quarrelling, and competing for the favours of her young assistant Valentine. The general idea is that most of these people are leading compromised and discontented lives, and fall under the spell of an innocent who has yet to experience their disappointments.

The clientele includes an officious bureaucrat, a world-weary police investigator (Shamanov) and an old hunter. There is also Anna's vodka-inflamed husband, and her dangerously alienated son Pashka.

Vampilov seems to be aiming at realistic ensemble portraiture, so as to show the drama of Valentine's triple courtship emerging amid everyday routine surroundings. There are moments when the piece does come to life on these terms: as where Shamanov's mistress wards off the ridiculous bureaucrat by directing his attentions elsewhere. In general though, each character sticks doggedly in its predetermined track, delivering dialogue which (in Paul Thompson's translation) comes over as incriminating or idealizing evidence.

Bill Pryde's production loads the idiomatically British dialogue with heavy Russian accents, and allows the cast to settle into enclosed little groups. There is a genuinely alarming performance of the son from Aden Gillett, and a believable Anna from Sylvia Sims who runs her cafe as if it were a real job. Poppy Mitchell's frenetic lars and veranda also convey authenticity. The production arrives at Riverside next Monday.

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NOTTINGHAM - Odeon

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FROM NOV 15
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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **APART FROM GEORGE**: Nick Ward's Farinelli tragedy, in a NT Studio production, acclaimed at Edinburgh. Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1 (01-730 2544). Tube: Sloane Square. Preview tonight, 8-9.30pm. First night tomorrow, 8-9.30pm. Then Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, mats Sat 4-6.30pm, 8-9.30pm.

★ **THE ART OF SUCCESS**: Michael Kitchen's play about art, ambition and conscience. A transfer from Stratford. Pit Theatre, Barbican Centre EC2 (01-628 8795). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. In repertory. 7.30-10pm, 2.50, (D).

★ **BLUES IN THE NIGHT**: Return of the blues show. Carol Woods, Debby Shapiro, Maria Friedman and Peter Straker sing their tributes out in a sleazy Chicago hotel. Piccadilly Theatre, Denman Street, W1 (01-437 4508). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 8-10.30pm and 9-11pm, 28.50-41.50, (D).

★ **GIRLFRIENDS**: Hazel O'Connor and David Easter in Howard Goodall's World War Two musical about the WAFF, re-opening a theatre long used as a BBC studio. Playhouse Theatre, Tottenham Court Road WC2 (01-639 4401). Tube: Euston. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, mats Thurs 3pm and Sat 5pm, 21-25, (D).

★ **GROUCHO: A LIFE IN REVUE**: Frank Fennell in musical entertainment about the man with the cork moustache. Comedy Theatre, Fenton Street SW1 (01-630 2571). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8-10.10pm, mats Wed 3-5.10pm and Sat 5-7.10pm, 24-212.50, (D).

★ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST**: Dame Hilda Brackenbeck up on her last legs. Brackenbeck and Dr Evadne Hinge offer her Miss Prim in a cunning adaptation of Mr Wilde's original. Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall SW1 (01-930 7765). Tube: Charing Cross/Embankment. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.30pm, mats Wed 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm, 28.50-212.50.

★ **THE LIFE OF NAPOLEON**: John Sessions's dazzling one-man show, with the additional voices of Olivier, Orson Welles, Frank Bruno and about 30 others. Transfer after sell-out run at Riverside. Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-636 3878). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri 8-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Sat 6-7.30pm, 25-212.50.

★ **THE LIVING ROOM**: Major revival of Graham Greene's first play; strong cast includes Katherine Schlesinger, Judy Canham, Duane Gray, Peter Byrne and Paul Denman. Royal Theatre, Portugal Street EC2 (01-631 0650). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Wed 3pm and Sat 5pm, 28.50-212.50.

★ **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**: Bill Alexander's elegant production from Stratford 1986. Barbican Theatre, Barbican Centre EC2 (01-628 8795). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate.

Barbican/Moorgate. Tonight 7.30-10.15pm, 28-212.50, (D).

★ **PUSHKIN**: Fringe first winner at Edinburgh Festival, Richard Crane's play weaves an impressive pattern from the writer's life and work. Salisbury Theatre, Gordon Street, London WC1 (01-387 9629). Tube: Warren Street/Euston Square/Euston. Opens tonight, until Sat Nov 7.30pm, 24, (D).

★ **ROMEO AND JULIET**: David Thacker's new production, with Richard Huw and Sarah-Jane Fenton as the doomed young lovers. Young Vic Theatre, 66 The Cut SE1 (01-628 6383). Tube: Waterloo. Tue-Sat 7.30-10.30pm, mats Wed, Thurs and Fri 2-5pm, 23.75-27.50, (D).

★ **THE SISTERHOOD**: Janet Henfrey and Celia Swift lead a strong cast in Mollie's satire on trifling intellectual women, *Les Femmes Savantes*. New End Theatre, 27 New End, NW8 (01-724 0022). Tube: Hampstead. Tue-Sun 8pm, Wed, Thurs and Sat 8pm, 25, 26, and Sun 2.50, Fri and Sat 2.50.

★ **THE SMALL POPPIES**: Three Australian children set off for their first day at school. New children's play by David Holman, author of the marvelous *No Noes* last year. Young Vic Theatre, 66 The Cut, SE1 (01-628 6383). Tube: Waterloo. Tue-Sat 10.30am, Mon, Tues and Sat 2pm. Adults 22.50, children 11.50, (D).

★ **LONG RUNNERS**: The *Business of Murder*. Mayfair Theatre (01-628 3036). ★ **Cats**: New London Theatre (01-495 0072, cc 01-404 4079). ★ **Chicago**: Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). ★ **42nd Street**: Drury Lane Theatre Royal (01-636 0180/81). ★ **La La**: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-636 6111, cc 01-636 1171). ★ **We and the Wind: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-636 6111). ★ **Les Femmes Savantes: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). ★ **The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-636 1443). ★ **Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-332 2244). ★ **Run for Your Life: Cricton Theatre (01-632 9616). ★ **Starlight**: Victoria Palace Theatre (01-328 8625).********

★ **BRACKENBECK**: Names Touring production by Shared Experience of Zola's strong tale of a powerful French courtesan. White Theatre, South Hill Park Arts Centre, (0444 484123) Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, 23-25, (D).

★ **SCARBOROUGH**: All My Sons. Arthur Miller's powerful drama punches holes in the American dream. Stephen Joseph Theatre-to-the-Round (0723 370541) Preview mat today, 2pm, 22.50. Opens tonight, 7.30pm, then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, 3pm, 24.50, (D).

★ **STRATFORD-UPON-AVON**: New line revival of runs Ben Jonson play, set in a Barter. Swan Theatre (0789 285223). In repertory with *Volpone* in Mon night, 7.30pm, 28.50-212.50.

★ **Cymbeline**: Harriet Walter plays the talented actress involved in Shakespeare's last play. The Other Place, (0789 285223). In repertory. Preview from tonight, 7.30pm, 28.50. Few tickets available.

★ **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**: Bill Alexander's elegant production from Stratford 1986. Barbican Theatre, Barbican Centre EC2 (01-628 8795). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate.

CLASSICAL TOP 20

- (1) A Portrait of Mario Lanza, Mario Lanza, Stylus
- (2) Heart and Soul, Edith Piaf, Stylus
- (3) Elgar: Cello Concerto, Jacqueline du Pré, HMV
- (4) The Piano Collection, Luciano Pavarotti, Stylus
- (5) The Maria Callas Collection, Maria Callas, Stylus
- (6) The Collection, Plácido Domingo, Stylus
- (7) A Portrait of Andrea Segovia, Andrea Segovia, Stylus
- (8) Elgar: Cello Concerto, Robert Cohen LPO, CFP
- (9) Elgar: Cello Concerto, Jacqueline du Pré, CFS
- (10) Elgar and Debussy: Cello Concertos, du Pré/Barbican, HMV
- (11) Holst: The Planets, Karajan/BPO, DG
- (12) Dennis O'Neill Sings, O'Neill/BBC WSO, BBC
- (13) Beethoven: Symphony 5, Karajan/BPO, Galleria/DG
- (14) Elgar: Cello Concertos, Bennett/ECO, EMI
- (15) Tchaikovsky: 1812 Overture, Mackerras/LPO, CFP
- (16) Elgar: Cello Concerto, Lloyd Webber/MoR, Philips
- (17) Elgar: Violin Concerto, Kennedy/Hendy/P.O. EMI
- (18) Strauss: Waltzes, Thompson/Hallé, CFP
- (19) 100 Greatest Classics 1, Various, Trax Classics
- (20) 100 Greatest Classics 2, Various, Trax Classics

Source: Music Week Research

FILMS

★ Also on national release
★ Advance booking possible

★ **ANGEL HEART** (18): Mickey Rourke's down-at-the-elbow detective pursues a missing person to the underworld of New Orleans. Pulp stuff, directed by Alan Parker in slam-bang style (113 min). Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **ARIA** (18): A mixed bag of directors put visuals to 10 operatic bon-bons from RCA's record catalogue. Directors include Jean-Luc Godard, Robert Altman, Nicolas Roeg, Ken Russell and Derek Jarman. Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **BELLY OF AN ARCHITECT** (15): Peter Greenaway's study of a middle-aged architect (Brian Dennehy), losing his confidence and possibly his wife in Rome (118 min). Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **ELIAS** (18): Baz Luhrmann's black comedy from 1985, about an advertising executive whose world crumbles after a heart attack. Based on Peter Carey's novel, directed by Ray Lawrence, with Barry Otto, Lynette Curran, Helen Mirren and Peter Carey. Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **DIRTY DANCING** (15): Filmy but energetic coming-of-age saga, with Jennifer Grey as the headstrong girl who loses her innocence. Directed by Emile Ardolino. Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **EAT THE RICH** (15): Raunchy black comedy about London life, from Peter Richardson, originator of *The Comic Strip*. With Ronald Allen, Peter Richardson, Norman Power. Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **MADE IN HEAVEN** (15): A wry and comic look at love and marriage, literally made in heaven; touching moments, though. Alan Rudolph directs. With Richard Gere and Kelly McGillis. Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET** (15): The latest edition to the gory adventures of demonic Freddy Kruecker. Directed by Wes Craven. Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **THE RESCUERS** (U): 1977 Walt Disney animated feature, perhaps, among the best from the studio, but still very ahead of most contemporary animation (77 min). Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **IN SHOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS** (U): Walt Disney animated feature, 1937, looking better than ever (83 min). Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

★ **THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK** (15): Jack Nicholson's satirical comedy about three women who dominate the town of Eastwick. Directed by Peter Jackson. Cinema Channel (01-352 5095). Progs 2.05, 5.50, 8.40, 11.00, 1.20, 2.00, 2.40, 3.20, 4.00, 4.40, 5.20, 6.00, 6.40, 7.20, 8.00, 8.40, 9.20, 10.00, 10.40, 11.20.

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Jennifer Rahn (above) is one of four actresses playing Ophelia in Heiner Müller's *Hamletmachine*, which returns to the Almeida Theatre tonight after a five-week tour of France and Madrid. There are no battements, poisoned swords, or jokes round the grave, nor is there much of the play as we know it, and only one recognisable line. "Denmark is a prison," says a woman who runs for two and a half hours without an interval. But since its first showing last year in New York, in a production by the wonder director of minimalist opera, Robert Wilson, this "meditation on Hamlet and other subjects" has generated enormous interest among patrons of avant-

garde theatre. The text runs to only six pages, and after a prologue stating the theme, this is reprinted by the cast of 12 from four different angles - literally so: full face, facing left, facing right, and with their backs to the audience. The "other subjects" include war and women's desire for revenge upon men in a man's world, and the production has been compared to an amalgam of modern dance, meticulously choreographed and painting, dramatically lit. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London N1 (01-359 4404). Tonight, 7pm. Then: tomorrow until Sunday and November 9-14, 8pm, with a matinee on November 14, 3pm. 28.

Jeremy Kingston

GALLERIES

★ **RAY ELLIS**: Landscapes and seascapes of the Eastern seaboard of Australia. 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

OPERA

★ **LE NOZZE DI FIGARO**: Maintaining production by Johannes Schand and lively musical direction by Bernard Haitink make this a Figaro not to be missed. English National Opera, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-340 1067), 7-10.30pm, 22-27, (D).

★ **WERTHER**: Keith Warner's dark Victorian production draws compelling performances from Oliver Davies and Anne-Marie Owens. Peter Robinson now conducts. English National Opera, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-340 1067), 7-10.30pm, 22-27, (D).

★ **RAVEL: DOUBLE BILL**: *L'Heure Espagnole* and *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, designed by Aurélien Bonnet and conducted by Aurélien Bonnet and conducted by Aurélien Bonnet. English National Opera, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-340 1067), 7-10.30pm, 22-27, (D).

★ **MAGIC FLUTE**: Kent Opera's production, with Andrew Shaw as Papageno. Kent Opera, Margate, Kent (01-873 2811), 7-10.15pm, 23-27, (D).

★ **MARRIAGE OF FIGARO**: Peter Gil's new production for Opera House,

Writing a book with the head

PART 2

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1986

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FTSE 100 Share
1853.9

FTSE 100
1853.9

Bargains
5000 4000

ISM (Datastream)
1853.9

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7416

German mark
2.3634

Trade-weighted
1853.9

ABI puts storm cost at £500m

Members of the ABI have estimated that the cost of the storm damage to the UK's insurance industry will be £500m.

Mr Mike Smith, ABI's executive director, said the industry had suffered a "catastrophic" loss of £500m in the last week.

He said the industry had suffered a "catastrophic" loss of £500m in the last week.

Control ahead

Control of the industry is now in the hands of the ABI, which has taken over the reins of the industry.

The ABI has taken over the reins of the industry, which has been in a state of chaos since the storm.

Rosehaugh up

Rosehaugh's share price has risen to 1.7416, following a report that the company is planning to raise £500m.

The company is planning to raise £500m, which will be used to pay for the storm damage.

Glynwed buy

Glynwed's share price has risen to 1.7416, following a report that the company is planning to raise £500m.

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SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York: 1853.9
Tokyo: 1853.9
Hong Kong: 1853.9
Singapore: 1853.9
Sydney: 1853.9
Frankfurt: 1853.9
Paris: 1853.9
London: 1853.9
Stocks: 1853.9
Bonds: 1853.9
Commodities: 1853.9
Currencies: 1853.9

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Stocks: 1853.9
Bonds: 1853.9
Commodities: 1853.9
Currencies: 1853.9

INTEREST RATES

London: 1853.9
New York: 1853.9
Tokyo: 1853.9
Hong Kong: 1853.9
Singapore: 1853.9
Sydney: 1853.9
Frankfurt: 1853.9
Paris: 1853.9
London: 1853.9

CURRENCIES

London: 1853.9
New York: 1853.9
Tokyo: 1853.9
Hong Kong: 1853.9
Singapore: 1853.9
Sydney: 1853.9
Frankfurt: 1853.9
Paris: 1853.9
London: 1853.9

GOLD

London: 1853.9
New York: 1853.9
Tokyo: 1853.9
Hong Kong: 1853.9
Singapore: 1853.9
Sydney: 1853.9
Frankfurt: 1853.9
Paris: 1853.9
London: 1853.9

NORTH SEA OIL

London: 1853.9
New York: 1853.9
Tokyo: 1853.9
Hong Kong: 1853.9
Singapore: 1853.9
Sydney: 1853.9
Frankfurt: 1853.9
Paris: 1853.9
London: 1853.9

Recording every chomp and slurp

[illegible][illegible]

Mr. Mike

[illegible]

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 10 (AP)—The
city's population is expected to
be 1,000,000 by the year 2000.

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Temp: 14.2

Temp: 14.2

SUMMARY

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New York
Los Angeles
Tokyo
Hong Kong
Bangkok
Singapore
Manila
Seoul
Taipei
Beijing
Shanghai
Tientsin
Canton
Hankow
Peking
Tientsin
Harbin
Chengdu
Kobe
Osaka
Yokohama
Nagasaki
Fukuoka
Kyoto
Sapporo
Miyako
Sendai
Niigata
Toyoko
Kanazawa
Takamatsu
Matsuyama
Utsunomiya
Maebashi
Mito
Tokushima
Matsuyama
Oita
Nagasaki
Fukuoka
Kyoto
Sapporo

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Tientsin
Harbin
Chengdu
Kobe
Osaka
Yokohama
Nagasaki
Fukuoka
Kyoto
Sapporo
Miyako
Sendai
Niigata
Toyoko
Kanazawa
Takamatsu
Matsuyama
Utsunomiya
Maebashi
Mito
Tokushima
Matsuyama
Oita
Nagasaki
Fukuoka
Kyoto
Sapporo

Recent issues
Closing prices

Recent issues
Closing prices

HILLS:
Countryside
Glen
P.O.
Grand Mar.
Hendrix

HILLS:
Countryside
Glen
P.O.
Grand Mar.
Hendrix

SW Bengford
Read Intl
GUS 'A
Amersham Intl
Land Securities
Cons. Gols
Prices are as at 4pm

SW Bengford
Read Intl
GUS 'A
Amersham Intl
Land Securities
Cons. Gols
Prices are as at 4pm

CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES

GOLD
London Fixing:
AM \$470.10 PM \$469.25
close \$465.00-465.25
288.25

GOLD
London Fixing:
AM \$470.10 PM \$469.25
close \$465.00-465.25
288.25

NORTH SEA OIL
 Brent (Dec.) pm \$18.50
 *Denotes latest trading price

| | | |
|---------------|----|------------|
| Bus Summary | 26 | Traded Oil |
| Stock Markets | 26 | CPI for |
| Tempus | 26 | Mon |
| Wall Street | 26 | |
| Co | 26 | |

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| Bus Summary | 26 | Traded Oil |
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| Tempus | 26 | Mon |
| Wall Street | 26 | |
| Co | 26 | |

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Trial of Guinness accused may be delayed until 1989

By Lawrence Lever

The trial of those accused in the Guinness affair will not take place before the middle of next year and could easily be delayed until 1989.

This emerged yesterday when three of those accused in the case — Mr Ernest Saunders, Mr Roger Seelig and Sir Jack Lyons — were remanded on bail until April 12 next year, at Bow Street Magistrates Court.

Yesterday's appearance was the first time the three men have appeared in court together, each having made individual appearances previously.

Although all three sat in the dock, there was virtually no communication between them. Before the hearing, Mr Seelig and Mr Saunders exchanged a few brief words.

Both held their heads up high, looking around at the packed courtroom before the hearing.

It is expected that the prosecution evidence against the three accused would start to be served by the middle of next month, and the process be completed by the middle of February next year.

The defendants would then consider the evidence and determine what form of committal proceedings to choose on April 12.

The Fraud Squad evidence will consist of statements of witnesses and supporting documentation.

After the hearing, Mr Stephen Ralph, solicitor for Mr Saunders, said it was possible that his client would try to

have the case against him thrown out at the committal stage, on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence on which a jury could convict him.

Mr David Orchard, Mr Seelig's solicitor, said this was one of the options he would be considering with his client. Sir Jack Lyons may also attempt to have the case against him stopped at committal.

Mr Saunders is charged with 40 offences, including theft of £24 million, attempting to pervert the course of justice, and false accounting.

Sir Jack Lyons's nine charges include theft of £3.25 million, and Mr Seelig faces 12 charges, including theft of £2.95 million. All three men deny all charges.

They arrived separately at court with their lawyers. Mr Seelig said: "What a lot of flashbulbs" as he walked through the phalanx of reporters and photographers.

After the hearing, the three left the building separately and without comment. Mr Seelig left first, walking off down the street with his lawyers. Sir Jack was driven away, followed a few minutes later by Mr Saunders.

There is likely to be one trial of all the defendants, although a complicating factor may be the extradition process for Mr Anthony Parnes, the stock broker held in custody in Los Angeles. The Fraud Squad also wants to make further arrests in connection with Guinness.

TSB has 87% of Hill Samuel

By Richard Thomson

Banking Correspondent

The £777 million bid by the Trustee Savings Bank for Hill Samuel went unconditional yesterday when 57 per cent of the merchant bank's shareholders voted to accept the offer. With its existing 30 per cent shareholding, the TSB now controls 87 per cent of Hill Samuel.

The bid marks the culmination of Hill Samuel's attempts to be taken over, which started in the 1960s and resulted in three previous failures. TSB shareholders agreed the bid on Monday by a heavy majority, despite an acrimonious extraordinary meeting.

The merger has been generally welcomed in the City as benefiting both the TSB and Hill Samuel. The merchant bank has been looking for extra capital to back its operations, while the TSB gains Hill Samuel's insurance broking and fund management businesses. It also gains control of the merchant bank's corporate finance department, which will help its expansion into the corporate lending market.

The merger leaves unfinished the sale of Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroking wing, which is being sold because the TSB refuses to become involved in making markets in securities.

Woodmac is in close negotiation with three potential purchasers — one British bank and two foreign. Morgan Guaranty and Morgan Stanley, the US banks, are widely believed to be involved.

Sources confirm that discussions with one potential buyer are well advanced and an announcement about a purchase is expected in about two weeks.

Corroon lifts share stake in Minet

Corroon & Black, the American insurance broker, has raised its stake in Minet Holdings, the Lloyd's insurance broker, to 29.9 per cent from 25 per cent.

Corroon said the additional shares were bought as an investment and reflected its confidence in Minet's management and operating position.

There has been considerable speculation that Corroon might bid for Minet, particularly now the long lasting PCW affair at Lloyd's has been resolved. Minet used to own the PCW agency.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Outlook rosy but heed the market's message

Stock markets, both in London and New York, again demonstrated their highly sensitive condition yesterday. Soon the pretence preached by optimists and fools alike that collapsing share prices are "unreal" and can be safely disregarded when the "real" economy is so demonstrably healthy will have to be abandoned, if only because it makes the Government's task of steering the ship through troubled waters more difficult.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is under no such illusions, though at this stage he has factored into his public expenditure "budget" relatively little for "the stock market effect". The simple truth is that the Stock Exchange values interact with the "real economy" directly through consumption and business investment and indirectly through the confidence, or lack of confidence, people feel about their own and their companies' future.

Mr Lawson said in the Commons yesterday that the strength of the economy and public finances were in "the best possible position to weather any storm". Seen in that light alone, his Autumn Statement is an excellent piece of policy-making.

The big picture, however, is not the United Kingdom but the United States, with the twin deficits and the dollar in the big role. Although it recovered in the afternoon, with the help of central bank support, the dollar was in a woeful state earlier, falling perilously close to the critical DM1.70 level. The West Germans, with the Bundesbank leading, are waging an unhelpful campaign against the American currency and therefore against the US. By failing to carry through an expected sale and repurchase agreement yesterday, the Bundesbank took DM7 billion out of the market with the inevitable result that rates went up. It is fascinating to speculate on what the West German motives are. At this rate they could well make the financing of President Reagan's "Star Wars" programme impossible.

Most of the pressures are now pushing economic growth rates down and there is a hint of recession in the air. The Chancellor yesterday foreshadowed the UK growth rate falling next from the current 4 per cent to 2½ per cent. Falling stock markets will curb consumer spending, particularly in the discretionary spending of high earners in the London area. Companies, especially those looking at the US as an export market — Jaguar for example — will postpone investment. The art of economic management in this difficult situation is to contain the decline in the growth rate to the sort of figure the Chancellor forecast yesterday.

Investors' attitudes must be cautious too. Although some Scottish institutions known for their "contrary thinking" have been buying equities in recent

days, the majority of fund managers have no great incentive to rush in, however many "bargains" there appear to be on the shelves. They are not especially liquid, they are waiting to see whether there will be any serious bankruptcies (in the US some are inevitable) and they are attempting to assess economic trends in the light of the collapse.

Mansion House hope

For the gilt market yesterday, tonight's Mansion House speech was looming very large even before the Chancellor had delivered his Autumn Statement. The reason was the \$6.7 billion surge in Britain's official reserves last month, which means £4 billion extra sales of gilts, if the Chancellor is to continue with a strict fully funding rule.

The rule requires that the public sector borrowing requirement is fully funded over the financial year as a whole. The October rise in the reserves thus added four full taps to the amount of funding needed in the remaining five months of the financial year.

The gilt market is, therefore, looking for a sign from the Chancellor that he is prepared to operate with the same sort of pragmatism in funding policy as he has been prepared to do with monetary targets. Proper concern for sterilizing intervention over the long-term could easily be combined with a rather looser interpretation of the funding rule.

The market would be happier if the Chancellor substituted fully funding of the PSBR over the long term for the current arrangement of fully funding within each financial year. The Bank of England has clearly been in far happier positions than at present, where it has underfunded to the tune of about £5 billion going into the uncertainties of winter. Last year, for example, the situation was the opposite and the Bank was heavily overfunded, a position which only unwound itself at the very last moment, as a result of heavy intervention in March.

By adding to the dollar's woes, however, the Bundesbank has added to the Bank's need to intervene in support of the now ailing Louvre Accord. The dilemma will continue. Hints about lower interest rates in the autumn statement were conspicuous by their absence. Something more may come this evening, but the impression was of a Chancellor who is awaiting international moves before setting out to reduce interest rates.

The inflation outlook is worse than expected, the current account is deteriorating and consumer spending is predicted to grow at a 4 per cent pace next year. Not all of the overheating worries have been wiped out by the stock market crash.

RKF in £7.34m cash call

By Cliff Feldham

RKF Group, the heating contractor recently floated on the USM, is braving the stock market fall-out to launch a £7.34 million rights issue to help pay for a clutch of acquisitions.

RKF, which has seen its shares rocket from the April placing price of 55p to a peak of 165p, called a 24-hour halt to dealings yesterday at 11.2p. The partially underwritten new shares are being issued on a four for five basis at 85p.

Mr Bob Francis, the chairman and main shareholder, is pledged to take up 37 per cent of the issue. He is adding a large new business and injecting his own private interests into RKF in a complex package involving the issue of cash and shares.

RKF, which until now has been involved in heating and engineering, is buying Grange Press, a quality magazine printer — whose best known customer is probably *Euromoney* — which made profits of £875,000 last year.

The other acquisitions include Perryman's and Rosemore, two closely related companies producing gas and oil heaters, Alexander, a kitchen equipment and reproduction fireplace business, and some property interests.

RKF, which yesterday reported half-time pretax profits of £222,000, is expected to turn in £850,000 for the full year. But in 1988, as the full impact of the acquisitions comes through, analysts predict about £3.5 million.



Rocking all over the world: Isaac Tigrett (left) and Barry Cox, joint chairmen

Hard Rock Cafe seeking a full Stock Exchange listing

By Carol Ferguson

Those who have enjoyed eating a steak at the Hard Rock Cafe can now take a stake in the shares of Hard Rock International. The hamburger chain with the world's largest collection of rock music memorabilia is seeking a listing for its shares on the London Stock Exchange.

The shares have already found a limited market in Britain where they have been quoted "over the counter" by Harvard Securities since 1983. Yesterday the indicated price was 176p-191p. However, the shares are trading at about half

that level in the US, so the company could be valued anywhere between \$45 million and \$90 million.

The group believes a full British listing will attract further institutional interest and provide a larger and more liquid market for its shares, facilitating acquisitions.

No new shares are being issued, and none is offered for sale. But the company already has an army of about 2,000 shareholders through its listing on the American Stock Exchange.

In addition to the original Hard Rock Cafe in London's Park Lane, which opened in 1971, the company operates five restaurants. New York opened in 1984, followed by Dallas in 1986. Franchise operations have been opened in Stockholm and Reykjavik, in Iceland. There is a joint-venture restaurant in Tokyo.

While restaurant turnover has grown rapidly in the last five years, sales of merchandise under the Hard Rock name have been growing even faster.

Cowie's £44.5m issue hit by market crash

By Our City Staff

The £44.5 million rights issue of T Cowie, the car leasing and motor dealing company, has fallen victim to the stock market crash. Shareholders subscribed for only 1.07 per cent of the 28.97 million shares on offer.

The issue was underwritten by Noble Grossart, the merchant bank, and fully sub-underwritten through de Zoete & Bevan, the stockbroker. The balance of the issue has been left with the

subunderwriters. The issue circular went out one week before the start of the market decline. Cowie shares fell a further 25p yesterday to 115p. The rights issue price was 159p.

Mr Tom Cowie, the chairman, said yesterday the trading performance of the group continued to go from strength to strength and he was confident the profit forecast of not less than £14 million pretax in 1987 would be achieved.

Maxwell spends £24m on 70% Nimbus stake

By Alison Eadie

Maxwell Communications Corporation, the printing and publishing company run by Mr Robert Maxwell, is buying 70 per cent of the increased equity of Nimbus Records for £24 million.

Nimbus is the largest British-controlled manufacturer of compact discs, operating from plants at Cwmbran, Wales, in the United Kingdom and Charlottesville, Virginia, in the United States.

Nimbus is expected to make

profits before tax of about £2 million in the year to December 31, 1987.

Profits in 1989 are warranted by the vendors to be not less than £12 million. At the end of 1986, Nimbus had net assets of £4.5 million.

Of the £24 million price, £20 million will be injected into Nimbus for the issue of new shares and £4 million will be paid to Nimbus vendors, who will retain 30 per cent of the enlarged equity.

Gordon rings in new Era

The lessons of BP are clearly being learned very quickly. Given the continuing uncertain climate in the City, there will at least be no whingeing underwriters in the £1.6 million rights issue announced yesterday by Era — the old Times Vener group. Its new full-time chairman, 63-year-old Murray Gordon, has personally underwritten the entire issue of 6.4 million new shares and, unlike any financial institution, he is generously waiving his estimated £30,000 commission fee. Liverpoolian Gordon, former chairman of Combined English Stores, reputed to have made some £10 million by selling his CES stake as part of an agreed takeover deal from Next in the summer, is, however, unlikely to be left with the shares, which represent 12.3 per cent of the company's enlarged undiluted equity. The heavy discount — the shares are being offered at 25p against a market price yesterday of 75p — should ensure a good reception. Gordon has further volunteered to procure additional subscribers, in the unlikely event that they should be required. Following such a selfless act, beyond the normal call of a chairman's duty, he has doubtless guaranteed himself a steady flow of job offers from other company boards.

Peer pressure

Is Fenner Brockway, the Labour peer, aged 99, the victim of African tribal witchcraft? In

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Geeing up the Westons

The Canadian Weston family, known for their frugality, can even save money by recycling school name tapes, as all male members of the family are called G Weston. Associated British Foods's chairman, Garry (Garfield) Weston tells me that all male members of the family for four generations have had names beginning

with "G". "My father was called Garfield, and my grandfather, George," he says. "I have two uncles, George and Gordon, and two brothers, Grainger and Galen. I also have three sons, Guy, George and Garth. None of them have any sons yet. But we're rapidly running out of names." Any original suggestions?

the House of Lords earlier this week, he asked if the DTI was encouraging British firms to invest in South Africa's development of advanced security equipment and oil and gas production — thus contravening the Government's stated abhorrence of apartheid. Coincidentally, news has just reached me that Lord Brockway's statue in Red Lion

Square, London, erected by the GLC, was knocked off its pedestal by an uprooted tree in the recent hurricane. Apparently the poor peer lay on his back, unattended, for several days and has now been carted off — but no one seems to know quite where. Perhaps he should be warned...

Hot seat John Banham, the CBI's director-general, illustrated his point that wealth creation has been seen as a "qualid activity" by telling the Glasgow conference yesterday that a new chairman of a big British company rang an elderly relative to give her the good news. "Oh dear, Christopher," was the reply, "couldn't you do something nice like be chairman of Harrods?" The man with the unfortunate job later owned up: it was Christopher Harding, the chairman of British Nuclear Fuels, and he was being ticked off by his mother.

Bernard's sure right

If it is any consolation to both the weathermen and investors — large or small — who lost a fortune in the last account, the stock market slump took even the best-connected City advisers by surprise. In *Kleinwort Greaveson's November Equity Market Review*, Lord Donoghue, one-time Number 10 adviser to Wilson and Callaghan, writes: "We were definitely not among the now rapidly expanding group of commentators who, in retrospect, had actually foreseen the devastation about to strike investment markets." Leading City commentators were also caught unawares. The November edition of monthly journal *Family Wealth* asks: "Do you think the UK market is in danger of a serious fall?" with six fund managers all in short answering: "No." Even more red-faced is *Money Magazine*, which sent out a press release on October 22 — three days after the initial crash — boasting that its November edition would include a feature on "When to sell: the Money team picks the brains of the leading City dealers on quitting on top and taking a reasonable profit." If only...

The Mousetrap, the long-running Agatha Christie play, which opened in London's West End on November 25 1952 — almost exactly 35 years ago — has been a better investment than some one could think of. During that time it has been seen by more than 7 million people and box office takings have grossed £13 million.

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MEDIA & MARKETING

Winner, at the second attempt?

OPINION

Hugh Stephenson

When Robert Maxwell announced last month that he planned to launch another London evening paper, the general reaction in the winebars of neo-Fleet Street ranged from the polite titter to the unrestrained guffaw.

His London Daily Maxwell this year was one of the most incompetently managed newspaper ventures in living memory. It left a lot of excellent journalists in the lurch and obviously cost the Mirror Group a packet. The paradox is that this time he could well be on to a winner — provided he hires professionals to run the project and controls his penchant for inspired interventions. The logic is as follows.

Everyone who has looked at the London evening market — except Robert Maxwell last time out — has come to the conclusion that it is very dodgy. It is the one area of the newspaper industry where the economics are not revolutionized by new technology, because with an evening paper the critical path goes through the distribution, not the production. The publisher has physically to get hundreds of thousands of papers to newsagents and street corners very fast at times when the streets are jammed with traffic, so the wholesale network cannot be used and there is no one with whom to share the cost.

When various groups were looking at possible evening paper launches during 1986 (at one time there were three or four, even allowing for the fact that the News International London Post project at Wapping had been abandoned), some interesting points emerged.

The first is that the assumption that the London Evening Standard is mainly bought by office workers to read as they commute home by public transport is wrong. Most people in London, as it happens, do not go to work by public transport. Also, since bets on horses can now be

placed legally and not only via bookies' runners, punters do not have to get an evening paper to discover whether they have won. Most copies of evening papers are, in fact, bought locally and not in the centre of town, and most of them are read at home, mostly to discover what is on television that night. These factors forced analysts to the conclusion that there would not be enough demand to support a rival paid evening newspaper upmarket of the Standard, even in its then editorial form.

The only other options would, therefore, be to go for the Standard head-on, or to go way down-market and to try to re-create the suburban and Home Counties distribution that always gave the old Evening News its big circulation edge. It remains a mystery to me on what evidence Robert Maxwell came to any other conclusion.

But a freebie London evening paper of the kind that Maxwell is now proposing is a fish in quite another kettle. With one bound he would be free of the constraints set out above. First, Maxwell could choose his readers and not have to persuade them to part with their pennies. Second, he could choose their in what-ever numbers and living in whatever streets he wanted.

On this basis, Maxwell really could do it with a reasonably up-market paper. For if the Standard is doing well by selling an average 485,000 copies a day (latest ABC figures) to a pretty mixed profile of readers, it is only a matter of organization for Maxwell to be able to deliver 1 or 2 million copies to the best of the advertising that that could command.

The only problem is distribution — and Maxwell would not get that wrong a second time, would he? *Hugh Stephenson is Professor of Journalism at City University.*

Television's Big Five companies have had things their own way too long, say the rest. Alan Franks reports on a TV revolution

Recent goings-on in the world of commercial television have had a distinctly soap operatic flavour. We are on the eve of a major reform of small regional companies' rights of access to national airtime.

It may seem an unimportant subplot to the casual viewer, but it has far-reaching implications for the "Cinderella stations", scattered and occasionally sulked in the shadows of the Big Five companies — London Weekend, Granada, Thames, Central and Yorkshire.

The story so far: for too long a small and ruthless clique of network companies has decided which ITV programmes go out nationwide and has jealously guarded its own interests by favouring the output of member companies.

Resentment has been smouldering within the Little Five (Grampian, Border, Ulster, South West and Channel), while a third group, the Medium Five (ITV, TVS, Anglia, Tyne-Tees and Scottish) are



Regional success they all want to copy: STV's Taggart, starring Mark McManes and Peter Livingstone

plotting to break the dominance of their more powerful rivals.

Things come to a head when Margaret Thatcher denounces the system as an outmoded cartel in need of reform. Last week bigshots from the commercial companies met in Jersey to thrash out the details. It is not clear when the new system — the central element of which will be a reduction in the guaranteed net-

work programme hours of the Big Five from 42 to 35 per week — will come into operation.

Equally important is the fact that under the revised system the traditional right of the Big Five controllers to choose which programmes should be broadcast nationally will be extended to another two controllers, representing the remaining 10 companies.

The practical outcome of the move will be a huge increase in regionally produced programmes vying for peak slots, in the hope of "doing a Taggart" — a reference to Scottish Television's immensely successful police series.

In the past the companies outside the Big Five have understandably griped that when one of their programmes was accepted for national transmission, the payment

was much lower than those offered by the Big Five to one another.

Channel Four has acquired considerable significance in the present national/regional debate. Its inception five years ago virtually doubled, at a stroke, the number of nationally-watched programme hours on commercial television. With the resulting boom in demand, more and more companies began to make programmes to network standard, and then to argue that they merited a bigger slice of the cake.

There are real fears, however, that the major network companies will be forced to shed jobs as a direct result of losing guaranteed programme hours. Just two days after Jersey, on Monday this week, Brian Tesler, chairman of both the Network Programme Committee and London Weekend, was warning a meeting of LWT's management group that there could indeed be casualties in the 1,460-strong workforce, of whom about 200 are on short-term contracts. With the independent sector due to take over 25 per cent of the company's production, he said, and increased network access by the regionals, he could "foresee a situation where some redundancies might be unavoidable."

The language is guarded, but the message is clear: the regions are not so regional any more, and television will never be quite the same again.

Under starter's orders for the TV stakes

Top executives are jockeying for key jobs at three of the four TV channels

The Channel 4 race for chief executive has generated much power-lunching and late night agonizing. Nobody quite knows what is involved. The Jeremy Isaacs era has been a honeymoon for C4. The critics have been kind and the living has been easy thanks to the indulgent financial attitude of the ITV paymasters. The next phase is bound to involve new battles, ranging from a possible divorce from the ITV

companies to serious advertising threats from satellite television or even a new channel. The answer may well be to split the job in two. This would suggest that Justin Dukes, currently managing director and a definite applicant, could take the business side. The theory is that he is the man who knows how everything works and thus too valuable for Sir Richard Attenborough, the new chairman, to upset. With Melvyn Bragg, head of arts at LWT, not standing for programming maestro, this leaves other applicants like Brian Wenham, former managing director of BBC Radio, former Labour MP Philip Whitehead and C4 editor Liz Forgan with significantly improved

HOW THEY LINE UP

● The following are the starting prices compiled by the programme controllers' group:

CHANNEL 4
3-1 Justin Dukes, Brian Wenham; 5-1 Anthony Smith; 6-1 Gus Macdonald, Melvyn Bragg, John Gau, Alan Yentob; 7-1 Roger Graef, Philip Whitehead; 8-1 Liz Forgan, Michael Grade.

chances. Meanwhile, Anthony Smith, head of the British Film Institute, has been gaining credibility steadily, and Gus Macdonald of STV remains a solid contender. But this is simplicity itself

BBC 1
2-1 James Moir; 7-2 Wm Wyatt; 4-1 Ron Neil; 5-1 Roger Laughton, Hugh Williams, Jonathan Powell.

BBC 2
6-4 Alan Yentob; 2-1 Wm Wyatt; 4-1 Jonathan Powell, Roger Laughton; 6-1 Peter Pagnamenta.

compared with the complexities at the BBC where the jobs of controller of both BBCs 1 and 2 have come up at the same time. Strategic thinking suggests possibly appointing two people who could co-

operate to make the schedules work more sympathetically. Both appointments will almost certainly be from existing BBC staff. Hot favourite for BBC 1 is James Moir, head of Light Entertainment, who came through on the rails at the Royal Television Society Conference in the autumn. A brilliant summing-up speech pushed Wm Wyatt, head of Documentary Features, to second place in the betting, and Ron Neil, head of News, to third. Meanwhile, Roger Laughton, of daytime television, has slipped to outsider. Alan Yentob, head of Music and Arts, is runaway favourite for BBC 2, mainly on the basis that he is the candidate of programme supremo Michael Grade. Wyatt is also a

runner here. And, surprisingly, so is Peter Pagnamenta, the news executive somewhat cruelly ousted by the new Deputy Director General, John Birt. The widespread feeling among insiders is that he was badly treated.

The key to the BBC job lies in the composition of the interviewing board. It seems to consist currently of Duke Hussey, chairman, Bill Cotton, Michael Grade and two other governors. Conspicuously missing, if this is the case, would be Birt, Grade's rival for the title of the corporation's real number two. That may well turn out to be the really big race.

Bryan Appleyard
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MEDIA & MARKETING

The library revolution

The traditional newspaper cuttings library has never been an entirely satisfactory operation. Hundreds of yellowed cuttings fill a multitude of drawers and cabinets, often out of bounds to all except library staff.

Their compilations are dependent on the whim of the librarian, and once compiled, they are vulnerable to theft or loss.

The advent of the computer age in Fleet Street has so far bypassed the cuttings library. Newspapers have been very slow to catch up with the new information technology, says David Nicholas, who has prepared a survey on cuttings libraries for the British Library.

But not for much longer. All the national newspapers, and many provincials, are now deciding which electronic system to adopt and the battle to win these lucrative contracts has become intense.

Two entirely different systems lead the field. One is the "on-line retrieval" system, which stores cuttings on a computer database. The other is the "optical disk" system, which works rather like a giant photo-copier, preserving cuttings in facsimile form on a glass disc.

The "on-line retrieval" system is already tried and tested abroad. It is generally operated by specialist commercial database firms, of which Nexis is the best known and biggest in the US. To operate the system the newspaper feeds a copy of the

Newspapers may have switched to new technology but their libraries have remained in the old world of dusty, yellowing cuttings. All that is about to change, reports Kate Finch

computerized tape of its daily edition to the commercial database, which then preserves and maintains it. When a journalist wishes to look at cuttings, he logs into the database on his computer.

The cost of on-line retrieval — around £30,000 a year for newspapers in the UK — can be defrayed by the royalty fees earned from other users. The *Washington Post* makes several million dollars a year in royalties paid by other Nexis subscribers.

Britain's best-known commercial database for the media is World Reporter, which carries *The Guardian*, *The Financial Times*, *The Telegraph*, *Today*, the *Associated Press*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist* and the *BBC*. *The Times* and *Sunday Times*, which have a private file with World Reporter will soon join the public database.

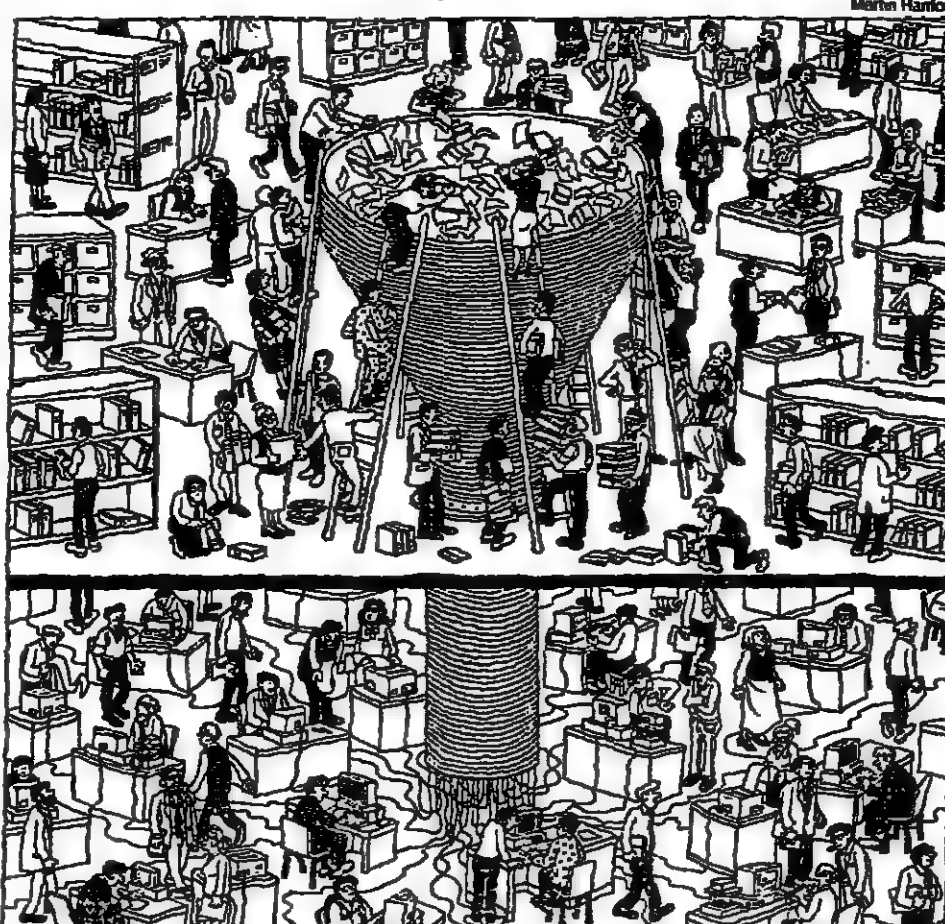
This is a range of publications far greater than any conventional cuttings library can deliver. But so far World Reporter has not been used as a replacement for cuttings libraries. Only *Today* has stopped taking physical cuttings of its own articles.

Still more surprising, none of the British newspapers which subscribe, with the exception of *The Times* and *Sunday Times*, have given their journalists direct access to World Reporter on their own screens. Its use is confined to the library.

The "optical disk" system has one great advantage as far as journalists are concerned, in that it records the size and presentation of their story. *Harland* and *Simon's Opal* system, and Phillips Megadoc are under intense scrutiny by newspaper managers.

Both operate on the same principle. Articles are cut and placed on a scanner, which etches the cutting onto a 12-inch glass disk. The librarian adds index headings and cross-references. The disks are stored, up to 64 at a time, in a storage cabinet known as a "jukebox", which has an automatic arm to retrieve disks and put them into drive.

The journalist calls up cuttings by keying in the index heading on a special terminal. Within seconds he can have facsimiles of the original stories. The discs carry a phenomenal number of cuttings. A whole year's edition of *The Times* can be stored on a single one. A system of eight jukeboxes can digest the con-



tents of 3,500 filing cabinets. The average newspaper library has only around 300 to 400 filing cabinets. But it does not come cheap, costing several million pounds.

Robert Maxwell's Mirror Group is to install the Opal system this December. The Express Group is expected to follow. And the BBC, which runs four separate cuttings libraries, is seriously considering optical disks, as is News International.

Where does this leave newspaper librarians? "They will have to get involved in high technology or they will go by the wayside," says David Nicholas. "But if newspapers opt for the optical disk system they won't be made redundant. Someone has still got to cut the paper and juggle scissors in the way that they always have."

BYLINES

Protheroe's posting

Alan Protheroe, formerly assistant Director-General at the BBC, has been appointed £40,000-a-year managing director of the Services Sound & Vision Corporation, the Ministry of Defence funded body which runs forces radio and television.

Protheroe was the obvious candidate: not only had he a distinguished career at the BBC until the arrival of John Birt effectively deprived him of a role there, but he is also a colonel in the Territorial Army.

The remarkable thing is that for several years he managed to be both the most senior journalist in the BBC and one of the MoD's most senior public relations officers, running a special unit composed of fellow part-time soldiers with media experience (they include Pilot Officer Keith Skues, the former Radio 1 DJ).

At least in his new job running the studiously uncontroversial SSVC, Protheroe is unlikely to face any problem as thorny as that posed by Duncan Campbell's programme on the Zircon spy satellite, which resulted in a Special Branch raid on the BBC's Glasgow offices. On that occasion, Protheroe condemned both the programme and the raid.

Blown away...

Even the staff at London Weekend Television find the comings and goings confusing. Robin Paxton has been appointed executive producer of current affairs and features — a fortnight after becoming editor of *The London Programme*. His rapid promotion is said to be not unconnected with his disastrous debut edition, the night after the hurricane, when he opened the series a week early with a programme on the disaster. The resulting shambles prompted 60 calls of complaint. His successor as editor is the programme's equally new presenter, Trevor Phillips.

Miles away

Lori Miles, the first woman in modern times to be appointed editor of a Fleet Street paper, is also the first to suffer redundancy. Spurning an offer by Associated Newspapers to edit *Ti Bits* ("I mean, do me a favour"), the youthful Ms Miles was this week clearing her desk at the defunct *London Evening News* and disputing Associated's claim that the paper closed because its circulation was falling.

Prime challenge

IPC has come clean with its plans to launch a new women's monthly, *Essentials*, to challenge the hugely successful *Prima*. The magazine makes its debut next February with 48 pullout pages of practical information, ready-punched for

filing in a free binder. Unlike *Prima*, the magazine will also have traditional fashion and feature articles, as well as the practical stuff.

Sad ending

A sad footnote to a story on this page six weeks ago about Alfred Guttman, who recently celebrated 15 years as editor, publisher and sole staff member of Britain's third best-selling monthly magazine, *The Puzler* (circulation 355,000). Last week Guttman, aged 55, was found dead in bed at his Hampstead home, but police have been unable to trace any close relatives to inherit his reputed £5.5 million publishing fortune.

Briefly...

Stuart Weir, new editor of the *New Statesman*, spent six of his formative years on *The Times Diary*... Boom time in independent radio: advertising revenue in the 12 months to September 30 was up 26 per cent at £83 million... Procter & Gamble's Ariel has overtaken Lever Brothers' Pencil in the struggle to dominate the £400 million a year washing powder market — vindication of P&G's decision to spend half as much again as Levers on advertising... *Star* editor Michael Gabbert has returned to his former paper, *Sunday Sport*, and says he and publisher David Sullivan will now exhumate their plans for a downmarket daily of their own.

Nick Higham



Genuine article: the front page of Turnbull's *Antiques Trade Gazette*

Art of the crime buster

When a man tried to buy antiques with almost-worthless pre-valuation sheets, Ivor Turnbull published the story. His description of the confidence trick rang a bell with a policeman... and now a man is awaiting trial.

It is a success story typical of Turnbull's *Antiques Trade Gazette*, now acting as an information exchange in place of Scotland Yard's Art and Antiques Squad, which was scrapped three years ago.

How a trade paper is assisting the police with lots of inquiries

"Art theft is the most lucrative form of crime after drugs," says Alistair Sampson, who has been running an antiques business in South Kensington for 18 years. "The *ATG* is the most important source of information for us,

alongside the British Antique Dealers' Association's own circulars."

Turnbull's rivals are two glossies, *National Magazines' Antique Collector* and *IPC's Antique Dealer and Collector's Guide*, neither of which match his UK sales of 15,366, representing a 50 per cent increase in four years.

"We publish weekly in a newspaper format, so people expect news," he says. "We don't give learned features on the history of

Bow Pottery, we assume our readers know about that; we give them information about what's happening in the art and antiques business, and more and more of that is including thefts."

Turnbull will not hazard a guess about how many of the items that appear on his pages are recovered. The trade reckons it to be 10 per cent. But, as Sampson says: "It's absurd that both the owners and police have to rely on a weekly trade newspaper to recover stolen goods. It is no substitute for the Art and Antiques Squad."

Simon Tait

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need a further 8 Senior Sales Executives

★ You are: a hungry, bright, young, aggressive and dynamic media sales person, who demands a challenge and expects to get paid for achieving exceptional results.

★ We are: the fastest growing multi-media sales agency in town, having just taken on a number of new accounts (magazine/electronic) and need top sales people with at least two years' media selling experience.

★ The rewards: hard work, long hours and a fascinating, varied job. Salary range £13K-£20K plus car plus commission.

★ Phone Tim Bradshaw or Tony Logie on 01-378 5454 and persuade us to see you - or drop us a note, fast, at 35 Rose Street, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 9EW

Book Publishing Publicity and Promotions Executive

We are looking for an enthusiastic new member for our Publicity Department handling all aspects of trade and consumer PR, advertising and promotions. The ideal candidate will have two years' publishing experience (minimum one year), preferably with a thorough knowledge of the workings of a Publicity Department.

This is good opportunity for someone to work on the large variety of titles from the six group companies, with particular emphasis on our maps and travel guides. The position requires organisational ability, imagination and the ability to work independently. Good pay and conditions, BUPA and LVs.

Please write with CV to: Helen Priddy, Publicity Manager, Times Books, 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN. Tel: 01 434 3767

Angus & Robertson Batholomew Bay Books Geographia Nicholson Publications Times Books

Marketing Manager - FMCG

Home Counties c. £27K + car etc

The post we are seeking to fill is for the most profitable division within the £10m+ group subsidiary of a major multi-national. Both the subsidiary and the division's brands are household names with adults and children.

Although bearing the title Marketing Manager, the title Business Manager might be more appropriate as the person ultimately responsible will be managing the business result in marketing for profit and whose brand financial management experience will include assessing and improving asset performance. In addition you and your team will be responsible for NP, long and short term marketing strategies and plans, sales forecasts and budgeting, advertising and promotions and maintaining a close and productive relationship with the manufacturing and the trade marketing operations.

If you're a successful FMCG marketer with analytical and creative skills plus the ability to move up a gear to take advantage of opportunities as and when they arise, this could be the post for you. We'd expect you, too, to relish the opportunity to run a multi-million pound profit centre. Experience of marketing food and a degree would be of advantage. It's unlikely that you'll be outside the 28 to 35 age bracket.

Interested parties, please send full career details in strict confidence to: Dirk Degenhart (Ref 887a) Dirk Degenhart & Partners Ltd, Management Search & Selection, Swan Centre, Fishers Lane, Leamington W4 1RX. Telephone: 01-995 1331 (daytime) 01-294 2157 (evenings)

INDEPENDENT CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT COMPANY

25-45—strong personality?—good general knowledge?—aiming high?—strong will?

start your new career - join us to become

DELEGATE CONSULTANT

of our sales department, dealing with the small and medium sized companies.

Comprehensive training - high earnings - fast promotion.

For early consideration of this challenging opportunity telephone

BRIAN CANNON IN LONDON ON 01 541-5171

DAVID BROWN IN PORTSMOUTH ON 0705-823201

TERRY SHARP IN EXETER ON 0392-52451

ALAN GREEN IN NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE ON 091-232 6191

On Wednesday 4 November

INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN ADVERTISING?

You see yourself in two years time as an Account Executive in a top Ad Agency or an Ad Manager controlling a dynamic team, but first need the work experience to be accepted for such a position?

WHAT DO YOU DO? ANSWER: START A DYNAMIC CAREER IN ADVERTISING SALES

As Publishers of International and National Publications in the Educational, Medical, Transport, Construction, Hotel Management, and over 15 other professional fields, we specialise in the recruitment and training of Advertising Executives from our Telesales Departments in Bloomsbury, London. You will converse at Director level and will hold the usual requirements for such a demanding position, including self-motivation and the will to succeed as an Advertising Executive with a £35,000 plus per annum income.

Make that first important move by telephoning: Andrea Chute or Tim Molloy, on 01-833 2593/2583/0758/0757. NOW!

Marriott INTERIOR DESIGNER

Marriott International Services, design/purchasing office for Marriott International Hotels in Europe and Middle East.

Due to the continuing expansion of our operations, a career opportunity has arisen for an interior designer. Applicants should have:

- B.S. Interior Design/Related Area or equivalent
- Good colour sense.
- Initial responsibilities will be development and documentation of design schemes.

Position offers a competitive salary commensurate with experience. For immediate consideration, please submit hand written resume to:

Marcella Friswell, Executive Secretary, Marriott International Services, New Lodge, Drift Road, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 4RQ.

LIBRARIANS AND INFORMATION OFFICERS

If you have two or three years experience, particularly in a business or financial environment, are proficient at searching online databases, can cope in a high pressure information environment and are seeking a change, contact Susan Hill at:

TFPL RECRUITMENT

The New Independent Information Company at 76 Park Road, London NW1 4SH Tel: 01 258-3740

Managing Director

for Darron, Longman and Todd Ltd, the well-known and highly regarded religious book-publishing house. The M.D., in addition to being the Company's chief executive, will also function as Marketing Director for this specialist publisher, which will very shortly become a Common Ownership company, giving all its staff a formal stake in its continuing growth and prosperity.

Candidates must have successful marketing and/or sales managerial experience in a publishing or other media environment, while considerable general management ability and business acumen are also necessary. Obviously in this context sympathy with, if not commitment to, the Christian faith is highly desirable.

Age-range: c.35-55. Salary: negotiable at an appropriate level, plus car and the usual benefits. Please write with c.v. or telephone in complete confidence to Roger Storey or Deborah Rea at:

astron

APPOINTMENTS LIMITED

20-24 UNBRIDGE STREET KENSINGTON LONDON W8 7TA Telephone: 01-229 6423/9171

JOB HUNTING?

A professionally prepared C.V. dramatically improves your chances.

C.V. Plus (Dept. T) 39 Cornhill Road Salisbury (0722) 21365

LIVELY LOQUACIOUS LABOURER

Urgently wanted for unusual sales in WI. No experience necessary, basic plus commission. 01-590 2157

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA MANAGING DIRECTOR

Applicants for the post should apply with c.v. to:

The Chairman, Philharmonia Orchestra, 76 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5AL.

By November 18th.

CITY PR to £11,500

A PA/Secretary to a very 'go-ahead' director of a leading PR company you will be in the know regarding forthcoming city news. Lots of press releases, conferences and research to do as well as masses of client contact. Each day is different. 80/50 and WP experience needed.

Please telephone 01 240-3531

Early/late appointments arranged

Elizabeth Hunt

Recruitment Consultants

18 Grosvenor Street London W1

NEGOTIATORS

Required to sell houses and flats from our Spitalfields E1 and Hackney E5 offices. Some experience preferred. Progressive and well established estate agency.

Apply Philip Tobin STRETTONS CHARTERED SURVEYORS 01 533 1212

01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

DRAKE PERSONNEL

The People People

JOIN THE PROFESSIONALS! £11,000

Use your special talents to assist and organise this highly successful dynamic professional company. Contribute towards administrating the company and provide secretarial back-up, enjoy a demanding and exhilarating position. Your confident personality & an ability to keep your feet firmly on the ground will ensure success.

Call Jackie Mills on 01-423 1224

MAGAZINE LAUNCH £10,500

Unique opportunity to develop your talents and be totally involved in a new weekly magazine. As PA to the publisher you will assist him in the growth and expansion of the magazine. Work towards a rewarding future. All you need is shorthand and a positive attitude.

Call Sue Lewis on 01-734 0911

RUN THE SHOW UP TO £11,000

Are you responsible and good natured? My clients need you to run their busy office. Your days will be diverse, aside from the usual secretarial duties. An excellent opportunity for someone wanting to display strength and initiative - all that's needed are good secretarial skills and a positive attitude.

Call Francesca Ronco on 01-629 4031

TRAVEL SALES £9,000

Excellent opportunity for an energetic achiever with a good sense of humour. You'll be liaising with branches countrywide, dealing with suppliers and printers and getting urgent sales figures out on time. If you have good organisational and secretarial skills and you're heading for the top -

Call Sue Lintern on 01-834 0388

INVENTIONS & PR £10,000

No two days are ever the same in this lively young office! Organise press releases, deal with marketing and find sponsorship for a multitude of crazy new inventions that need publicity! If you can give full moral and secretarial back-up to this young team.

Call Liz Bloom on 01-734 0911

PA IN PR £11,500

In the Public Relations Department of this expanding financial service, you'll find involvement in exciting, innovative projects. You'll use your initiative, good English, shorthand and typing, but most of all your sense of humour, when you join this friendly young team.

Call Liz Bloom on 01-834 0388

CLIENT LIAISON £15,000

Put your sales experience into good use as you generate new business and look after our existing client base. We need style, professionalism, ambition and a persuasive manner. For a new career with a rapidly expanding company, this phone call will be worth your while.

Call Margaret Winsnes on 01-831 0666

PERSONAL ASSISTANT £11,000

As PA to the MD of this busy concern, you will become totally involved in the every day wheeling and dealing of finance. With your own office, your day will be spent performing varied administrative duties. If you have good shorthand, typing and WP skills.

Call Natalie Druker on 01-629 4031

SALES & RESEARCH £9,500

This fun young company in WI is looking for someone to assist their sales team and provide an element of sanity! As they are sales and marketing, there is plenty of buzz! Organising lunches, meetings and assisting with small research projects, this position encompasses admin and secretarial skills!

Call Sharon Kay on 01-221 5072

PREMIER IN PROPERTY c. £12,000

Top notch PA needed now for the Director of this prestigious company. Enjoy constant liaison and total involvement in this busy environment. Excellent perks, 4 weeks holidays and discounts are just around the corner. If you have shorthand typing and a strong personality.

Call Sheila Bates on 01-834 0388

Be seen with the right company

In the City

ALL SYSTEMS GO

Career opportunity in an exciting growth industry

You may be feeling slightly shaken after the Crash of '87 - but there is more to the City than stocks and shares. Communications, for example, plays an integral part in the workings of the City and is a growth area. Our client is a market leader in developing the new technology which will take us into the 1990's and the Marketing Manager needs a right hand person with the ambition and drive to take

on more than the standard secretarial role. You will oversee a high-flying sales team and become fully involved in the preparation of a marketing strategy which will involve liaison with senior management, advertising and PR consultants. Your boss is certainly going places and if you can take the pace your career will progress with his. Skills 100/50, Age 22-25. Salary c.£13,000 + benefits.

FINESSE
APPOINTMENTS
01-499 3531/3551

ADMINISTRATION/ PERSONNEL MANAGER

£12,000

Responsible and enthusiastic person required to work for medium sized but fast growing company bordering East London and Essex.

The successful applicant will have knowledge of and be responsible for:

- Staff recruitment
- Staff management
- Office maintenance
- Company equipment
- Safety and security
- Fleet vehicles

The work is varied and we require a person with a flexible attitude who is able to communicate at all levels and who is well spoken, with a pleasant personality and smart appearance.

Please write enclosing CV to BOX A25 c/o News International, P.O. Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DD

SECRETARY

Capable audio secretary required for our South Kensington office. The applicant must want total involvement to carry out the many facets of this diverse position. Initiative, computer awareness and administration skills all vital. Good Salary.

For both positions please call Barbara Green on 01 225-2055.

JUNIOR SECRETARY

Bright college leaver/ 2nd jobber keen to learn and progress through our new Lettings Department in Knightsbridge. Excellent speeds required to cope with demanding workload. Good salary.

For both positions please call Barbara Green on 01 225-2055.

Young and Ambitious?

To £10,000 - Personnel

Are you good with people? This is a superb career opening in Personnel with one of the world's leading professional firms. Progressive and expanding, their hallmark is excellence. Working alongside two young, highly motivated Personnel Officers you will have extensive work with agencies, issue after letters, organise courses for employees etc. High admin content. Opportunity given to study for IPM qualifications. Excellent prospects. Skills (90/50), Age 21+. Please telephone 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

TOP FLIGHT RECEPTIONIST

To £14,000

Do you have the style and panache to make the right impression? Our client, a small highly successful firm of Corporate Finance advisers seek an experienced receptionist with immaculate presentation, an excellent telephone manner and an attractive personality to greet their prestigious clients. Based in luxurious modern offices near St Pauls, you will be a key member of a friendly, professional team. Typing skills of 40 wpm will be required. Age preferred 25-35. Please call 01-631 0479.

See Selection RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

THE NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION

Seeks two Senior Secretaries responsible to the President and the Director General.

These positions require candidates who are well organised, totally reliable and absolutely discreet. A calm cool disposition under pressure is essential as is the ability to deal with people at all levels in a diplomatic manner.

Applicants should have an 'A' level or higher standard of education with impeccable shorthand, audio and typing abilities together with previous proven secretarial experience at a senior level. Salary will commensurate with experience and qualifications and the successful candidate is likely to be aged between 25 and 45.

For further details and application forms apply to: The Director of Personnel (BRK) NFU, Agriculture House, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7NJ

SECRETARY/ CONFERENCE ASSISTANT c.£10,000

A mature Secretary/Conference Assistant is required to support the Conference Officer in the day-to-day administration of UK and overseas conferences. Applicants should have a sound secretarial background, with excellent administrative and organisational skills and be prepared to work in a busy and pressurised environment. Word processing experience would be an advantage.

Applications with full CV marked private and confidential should be sent to:

Ms P Gill, The Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, 44 Portland Place, WIN 4BR

Mary Overton

BIG BIZ FINANCE SALARY TO MATCH

MARY OVERTON RECRUITMENT LIMITED 35 MCCOY LONDON W1V 6PS 01-734 7282

DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR - SECRETARY

£9,000 Age 25 to 35

Required for a Learned Society. Able to work on own initiative and without supervision on a variety of administrative duties. Ideal for someone looking for involvement, responsibility, and able to mix with people. Also required accurate typing (shorthand an advantage) and a pleasant telephone manner. Non-smoker.

Please write enclosing CV with full details of experience to: Miss M.A. Stannards, RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1N 1PE.

P.A. TO DIRECTOR

One of the leading international banking/ broking groups has just elected a Senior Director to the Main Board. He is responsible for product development and, assisted by a Senior Director, markets to corporate clients. The role of their P.A./Secretary therefore requires strong organisational abilities, discretion, tact and excellent communication skills to cope with a large amount of PR work and confidential information. Contact will be with the media, the City and at senior level within the group. The successful candidate will be well-presented, articulate and calm under pressure. Financial or PR experience would be useful. Skills 100/60, Age indicator 28-35.

Please Telephone 01-439 6477

Public Image

£13,000 Mortgage Subsidy Bonus Profit Share

MacBlain Nash CITY Recruitment Consultants

"Looking for the challenge of heading a Secretarial Consultancy?"

Our secretarial division has been providing a comprehensive permanent and temporary recruitment service since 1978 with a reputation for being caring and professional.

As divisional manager you will have a key role in developing our position in the market. The responsibility and skills required mean you have to be highly self-motivated, a natural team leader and able to demonstrate a proven track record within a recruitment company.

In return we will offer solid backing for innovative ideas and a negotiable package that offers real incentive.

If this challenge is the next step in your career, telephone Peter Fenton 01-734 7155 in strict confidence

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Intelligent, hard working shorthand Secretary required for busy MD of several companies. The position requires someone who can work on their own initiative, often under pressure and who has good organisational ability in addition to having excellent secretarial skills. Initial salary £10,000 per annum, negotiable for the right applicant.

Please write for an immediate interview to: The Managing Director Goldmark Investments, 13 New Quebec Street, London W1H 7DD.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARY/PA circa £11,000.

Charming and busy property professional requires experienced self-motivated PA (Pref. over 25) to run small smart office often in his absence. Must be well-presented with good efficient all-round secretarial and admin skills. Phone Mrs Buckingham 01 235 9007. No Agencies.

Maine Tucker

AM I DREAMING?..... £11,000 + PERKS

YES, it is possible to work in Knightsbridge with really nice people, thoroughly enjoy your fascinating job and have excellent Career Prospects... if you are keen to tone down the typing and to tone up the involvement this could be the job for you. Plenty of people contact and real responsibility in an environment that is literally buzzing with activity and bright people can only be a recipe for Success. If you have good typing and shorthand, plenty ofumph and are 21+ then you must ring us to hear more.

90 Pall Mall St James, London SW1Y 6LB Telephone 01-25 0548 9

OSLO AND PARIS COMMISSIONS

Small, very busy international office in central London requires BILINGUAL SECRETARY (Eng/Fr) for immediate start and BILINGUAL ADMIN SECRETARY (Eng/Fr) with book-keeping experience, to start in January 1988

Tax-free salaries Enthusiasm and sense of humour essential For details ring 01 242 9927

HOW TO WIN AT WATERLOO

SECRETARIES

c.£10,000

3i is a young, successful organisation, providing venture capital to companies of all sizes in many different industries. We're used to backing talented people with the strength of our resources.

As a Secretary with 3i your salary will reflect your qualification and experience and you can expect excellent benefits, which include free lunches, a non-contributory pension scheme, free private health insurance and concessionary mortgage facilities. You'll also find that there are excellent opportunities for training and career development.

On this occasion we're looking for two secretaries to work in our pleasant Waterloo offices:

○ one to work for three executives in the Syndications team. Ideally you should be 21+ with a minimum of 4 'O' levels and preferably some 'A' level, together with audio and copy typing skills.

○ the other secretary to provide full secretarial support to one executive, and to assist with the administration of Compliance Procedures. Ideally you should be numerate and possess a minimum of 4 'O' levels, with both shorthand and audio typing skills.

You'll need at least a year's secretarial experience, ideally in the financial sector, and Wang wordprocessor knowledge would be useful although we will train you on all of our office facilities. Personality is also important - you'll need to be flexible, confident under pressure, and have a good telephone manner.

If that's you, achieve the recognition you deserve. Contact: Christine Brown, Investor in Industry, 41 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8AP, or telephone for an application form on 01-428 7822

3i

A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE

c. £9,000
Charitable Trust
If you are a graduate looking for responsibility and enjoyment from your job and have an interest in fund raising, this could be a tremendous opportunity for you.
Skills: 80/50 Age: 22+

£11,500
Television
Famous TV Co needs a top secretary in programme sales - lots of public contact and pressure. Good career prospects.
Skills: 100/60 Age: 21+

ZOO MEDIA RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS 01-439 6021

PUBLISHING £10,000

The Managing Director of Covent Garden based international publishing company is seeking an enthusiastic PA to assist him. This is a rare opportunity to become totally involved in all aspects of publishing - from editorial to marketing. You will need a good educational background, confident secretarial skills (100/60) and the ability to work on your own initiative as part of a friendly creative team.

JUDY FISHER ASSOCIATES 01-693 0238 Recruitment Consultants

BIRKBECK COLLEGE (University of London)

SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Secretary required in large academic Department. An interesting and responsible post for an experienced secretary providing scope for initiative. Close contact with academic staff and students in an informal environment. Must be willing to use word processing/ computing equipment. Good holidays/ pension scheme/ season ticket loan. Salary £2500-5200 including London Weighting. Apply (in duplicate) including full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees to Assistant Secretary Personnel, (TSE/EC) Birkbeck College, Market Street, London, WC1E 7HX

SECRETARY/PA FOR INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

Experienced young secretary/PA to manage small London office. Strong secretarial skills and thorough admin ability required (Apricot WP, financial and membership records, board meetings and minutes). £10,000 start, 3 months review, equal opportunity employer. We need you now - 729 6576.

GOLDEN PR OPPORTUNITY

Bright self-starter required as PA to public relations director. Must be prepared to do a lot of typing and routine work, but genuine opportunity for taking on responsibility and learning the ropes of P.R. Grad and WP skills preferred, early 20's. Modest salary but excellent holiday discounts. Telephone Miss July on 01 328 9841 X33.

DRAKE PERSONNEL PROJECT ASSISTANT TO £12,000

This internationally famous Co., who specialise in the field of making music that accompanies musicians world-wide offer you the opportunity to get involved in Marketing and Promotions. Your fluent French and/or German plus excellent sec. skills, WP and organising ability are all you need. Interested? Call Noel Steele on 01-846 9787.

Be seen with the right company

SENIOR SECRETARY

Responsible and confident person required to work for Directors of hectic company bordering Essex and East London. The successful applicant will possess a high standard of secretarial and organising skills and be capable of working on her/his own initiative.

The work involves dealing with staff at all levels within the company and also liaison with other Company Directors and overseas clients.

A smart, happy, well spoken person is required with a flexible attitude, able to cope with a variety of secretarial and administrative skills. Please write enclosing CV to BOX A28, c/o News International, P.O. Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DD

NO SHORTHAND EARLY 20's

Liaise with clients and artists and handle simple bookkeeping and correspondence. Get involved in every aspect of the business as PA/confidential secretary to a charming and appreciative City printing consultant. Good education + WP or PC skills, age 21-23ish, £10,000++ reviews and profit share.

City 377 8600 West End 439 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS

PROPERTY W1

PA needed by Senior Partner with 55/90 skills and word processing experience. We need someone who is confident, has a lively personality and can work on own initiative and under pressure

SALARY £9,500 plus CONTACT VICKY 01 499 0678 (NO AGENCIES)

FRONT LINE £14,000

This international securities house, with world-wide interests, is looking for a PA for one of their Executive Directors.

He is responsible for advising clients in the UK and needs someone he can rely on to handle all aspects of his work in his absence. In this involving one to one role, you will organise him totally - everything from arranging his busy travel schedules to setting up important meetings with clients. This position requires senior-level experience, preferably in a financial environment and the maturity to handle people and situations efficiently and diplomatically. Age: 22-30 Skills: 80/60

City Office 725 8491 ANGELA MONTGOMERY

£15,000 PA EXTRAORDINAIRE

PA to work for International Secur. Journalist/Film maker. Compensating outlook with impressive presentation age 25 - 35. Sec skills required (although not much used) and ability to cope with media and trouble. Free for travel.

Gate Associates Rec Cons Tel: 379 0344

SECRETARY

Wanted for Export Company. Well spoken, well-grounded. Typing and sales skills. Good telephone manner. £9,000 pa. Age 22+.

Apply in writing enclosing a full CV to: Deborah Collins, Embroid Industry & Commerce Ltd, 4th Floor, 58-59 Margaret Street, London, W1.

01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

Half a dozen ticks can show if your consultants...

Does your professional secretary fit in readily with the way you like to work?

...handle responsibility?

...fully appreciate your contribution to the organisation?

...know when your meetings can and cannot be interrupted?

...recognise when information is confidential?

...run things smoothly when you're away from the office?

If you cannot answer YES six times your recruitment consultants have not done their job properly.

Thanks to them you are probably not working at the peak of efficiency you could achieve if you had a fully compatible professional secretary. It's high time you put in a call to us.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

01-499 0092 (West End) 01-606 1611 (City) 01-589 4422 (Knightsbridge)



...are doing only half the job they should be doing

Do you think you and your executive make an effective team?

Are you being given enough responsibility?

Do you fully appreciate your executive's role within the organisation?

Are you trusted to judge when it's right to interrupt an important meeting?

...and to work on confidential matters?

Finally, are you given the opportunity to run things on your own when your executive isn't there?

Having the right employer and the right job makes an extraordinary difference to your effectiveness.

Not to mention your job satisfaction.

If you cannot tick six YES boxes you really should telephone us.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

01-499 0092 (West End) 01-606 1611 (City) 01-589 4422 (Knightsbridge)

ENHANCE TOP LEVEL CORPORATE SUCCESS

Sophistication and Director-level experience are crucial in this high-profile role. As PA to the Chairman of this prestigious Commercial Property Development Company, you will be actively involved in all aspects of their day-to-day business.

With tact and discretion, you will organise everything from private meetings, speeches, dinner and social engagements to travel details.

and official correspondence. Confidence, diplomacy and mature judgement will assist you in dealing personally with a first-rate clientele.

Aged 22 to 28, your excellent secretarial skills - which include audio, shorthand, word processing - will be recognised and rewarded with a package of c.£14,000.

Telephone: 01-499 0092; 173 New Bond Street W1V 9PB

SENIOR SECRETARIES

THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

FED UP WITH COMMUTING

Tonbridge

£11,000

On behalf of a major investment management company whose Marketing and Business Development divisions will shortly relocate to Kent, we are looking for three graduate PA/secretaries. These are Director level jobs carrying maximum involvement and require versatility, plenty of personality and first-class presentation. Skills should include shorthand, audio and WP. Salary range £9,000 - £11,000 + generous benefits. Please call 588 3535

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY IN EC2

c. £14,000

Do you have the ambition to move into research and a real interest in the fast moving pace of stockbroking?

Our client seeks a confident and professional secretary/assistant with a high standard of education to help co-ordinate and monitor research material.

The ideal candidate should have a city background and/or a knowledge of publishing with an aptitude for working with the latest technology. Rusty shorthand and accurate typing are required. Age preferred 20-25. Please call 01-631 0479.

Seer Selection

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS



National Heart and Chest Hospitals

Departmental Secretary

for the Department of Clinical Epidemiology Medical Secretary required to work for a Professor who is head of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology in this leading post-graduate teaching hospital in South Kensington.

The successful applicant will be capable of organising and administering with first class shorthand, typewriting and word processing. The secretary must be able to work unsupervised and to use considerable initiative (especially when the Professor is away) and should therefore have had two or more years experience with similar responsibility.

The salary range is between £8,890 and £10,085 with proficiency allowances of up to £1,040 for certain recognised qualifications.

Application form available from Mr. M. Jones, Assistant Personnel Manager, Brighton Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 6HP. Tel: 01 352-8121 ext.4456 (24 hour answering service). Closing date: 20th November 1987.

SECRETARY/PA

With experience, urgently required to assist MD of progressive and aggressive media company. Must be organised, bright and with full experience of Wordstar. Will appeal to motivated self-starter who wants to grow with the job.

Salary negotiable aae.

Ring now on 01 833 3404.



TYPEHOUSE
SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT
PUBLISHING £10,000 NEG
AN ESTABLISHED PUBLISHING HOUSE
REQUIRES A RESPONSIBLE PA/SEC
100-60WPM FOR THEIR MANAGING
DIRECTOR. GOOD PROSPECTS FOR SOMEONE
WITH GOOD ADMINISTRATION AND CO-ORDINATING SKILLS - USE OWN INITIATIVE
AND ABLE TO COPE WITH THE DEMANDS OF
THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY.
CALL US ON: 01 877 1003

£16,000 PACKAGE

One of our major clients - International City Bank has asked us to recruit a PA/Secretary for the General Manager. This is an extremely busy post; he is also Head of Marketing and needs a Secretary with a strong personality and the confidence and experience to succeed at this senior level. French also an asset (not essential). Age 24 - 35.

Sue Pryor 430 1551/2653

DULCIE SIMPSON APPOINTMENTS

FASHION COMPANY

PA/secretary to work with Directors in busy showroom and office. Applicant must be numerate and able to take responsibility for all aspects regarding Sales and Production. Experience in the Fashion industry would be an advantage. A cool head for a demanding position. Please send CV to: Mr B. Chamberlain, Radley Ltd, 19 Eastcastle St, London W1 or telephone 580 8271.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

STRIKE IT RICH!

£10,000

Luxurious surroundings await you at this international Oil company! enjoy a varied and interesting role as sec co of the Operations Director and his team of five. A capable and confident manager with an excellent command of English guarantees success! If you have last typing and WP. Call Kerry Eton on 01-734 0911

Be seen with the right company

TIME FOR A MOVE?

Friendly West End surveying practice require a Senior Secretary for head of Professional Department. Good organisational and typing skills, shorthand unnecessary. Some word processing experience helpful otherwise will train. c.£9,000 negotiable.

Telephone Alison on 01 408 2222.

(No agencies)

A Management Role

£12,000 plus exc benefits

Fabulous opening with this influential City-based Management Consultancy for a professional, outgoing individual seeking move away from the secretarial scene. As Project Assistant to a small, closely-knit team of consultants, your initial responsibilities will include setting up systems; researching and monitoring projects; and secretarial support. Subsequently you will recruit further staff and assume a more administrative role. Good people skills? Confident communicator? Please call 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

Christopher Keats

"I would sooner fail than not be among the greatest"

The new alternative for career secretaries from college leavers to top P.A.s - we will not fail you! Telephone: Leann 01-379 0344

Sally & Associates

SPANISH BILINGUAL TELEPHONIST

Required for prestigious City Bank. 28K + bonus benefits.

FRENCH + BILINGUAL SEC

First class French biling sec to work as sec of the sec sec PA/Sec in the company. Shorthand, numerate and the ability to cope under pressure. Excellent communications skills necessary.

BILINGUAL PORTUGUESE/BRAZILIAN PA

12K + A/R. Bilingual Sec. Portuguese/Brazilian. Excellent communications skills necessary. A full PA role.

For the above and other bilingual vacancies

CONTACT ALLISON STERNE

GUARDIAN RECRUITMENT LTD

1A New Street (Opp Bishopsgate) EC2

Tel: 623 3444

Fax: 626 0809

PART TIME?

2/4 days

St James's

Private office x 2 Directors

Top salary

01 930 2244

STRIKE IT RICH!

VICTORIA

Join the international sales and marketing division of a major company. Use your secretarial skills, sales world wide, manage conferences and travel. Become involved in a variety of admin projects and benefit from a friendly team. Typing 50 wpm, WP, SH, useful, 20K, £11,000 + 5 weeks loc.

01 283 0111

10 OLD BROAD STREET LONDON EC2

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

EXPERIENCED OR ASPIRING

Enjoy the challenge of a day constantly expanding temporary staff division, specialising in secretarial and accounting assignments. Recruitment consultancy experience is ideal, but a good opportunity to train if you have a track record in a fast moving "people" orientated environment - perhaps personnel, sales or customer support. Rewards are a 5 figure salary package, profit share and a huge feeling of achievement. Age 24-30. Telephone Maggie Love for a discussion.

01 283 0111

10 OLD BROAD STREET LONDON EC2

INTERNATIONAL PA

TO £12,000

+ PACKAGE

Create a new position for major City bank. ECA. Uses world wide, travel, involves the Finance Manager and enjoy full involvement organising travel, dining, appointments, and dealing with correspondence. Reviews Jan, April + bonus in Nov. SH typing. A levels. 20K.

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10 OLD BROAD STREET LONDON EC2

European Initiative £11,500 + bonus

Can you combine a European language with initiative and energy?

You will need all three to cope with the demands of your ambitious boss who expects the best secretarial and admin support in international television. You will liaise with agents, producers and business contacts, organising overseas festivals and maintaining up-to-date programme information. A good educational background and director level experience preferred. Age: 23-30 Skills 100/50.

RECRUITMENT'S GARRICK STREET

COMPANY TEL: 01-831 1220

SALES SECRETARY c.£10,500

based in WC2

PCL is a rapidly expanding computer services company currently employing around 160 staff. Due to the opening of a new sales office in the Aldwych/Holborn area, an exciting opportunity has arisen for a Regional Sales Secretary to run the office and work for the Sales Manager and his team.

We need a confident, well presented person who is able to work on their own initiative. Excellent communication skills and a degree of flexibility are essential.

You will have good secretarial skills with a knowledge of word processing; previous experience in a similar role would be useful. If you are interested in the above position, please write with your c.v. to:

Lesley Flint

PCL Computer Services Ltd

47 High Street

RICKMANSWORTH

Herts

or telephone her on

(0923) 771111 extension 266

PCL

Cool Aplomb

£12,000 plus bonus

Our client, a prestigious Mayfair-based financial consultancy, seeks a well-educated and highly motivated individual to work alongside their extroverted Senior Partner. He is responsible for their PR and Marketing element. You will thus enjoy a rich diversity of involvement - arranging office parties; handling VIP client liaison, looking after office admin and taking on personal projects. Social confidence and polished presentation essential. Accurate keyboard skills requested. Please call 01-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants

CORDON BLEU

to £12,000

This International Catering Company seeks a PA to their young and dynamic Chief Executive. You will compose your own correspondence and handle extensive travel arrangements. Social confidence, intelligence and board level experience are required, together with 60/90 skills plus audio and word processing.

HIGH FLYER

to £16,000

Join this prestigious International Company as PA to their Chairman. He is charming, energetic and travels frequently. You will organise the company jet, arrange complex itineraries and social events and enjoy worldwide client liaison. 50/80 and wordprocessing skills.

Please telephone 01 240-3511

Early/Late appointments arranged.

Elizabeth Hunt

Recruitment Consultants

2-3 Bedford Street London WC2

DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE WANG?

Do you have a strong background as a Secretary/PA? Do you find your current environment not taxing enough? Are you an expert on WANG Word processing and Data systems?

If so, read on. We are a West End Advertising, Public Relations and Marketing Company and we need someone like you to take responsibility for the development of our WANG systems.

If you have a 'feel' for sophisticated office systems, have WANG experience and would be happy undertaking the training of our staff at all levels, please apply in writing to:

Karen Heartfield, Aspect Hill Holiday, Queens House, 1 Leicester Place, Leicester Square, LONDON WC2H 7BP.

Professional training courses will be arranged if necessary.

The right candidate will receive a salary of circa £12,000 and the chance to grow with the job.

PERSON FRIDAY

Required for Executive Chairman, Hyde Park home, Central London. Successful applicant must be a good cook, car driver and be able to get things done efficiently and without fuss. This is a day time appointment, part-time possibility. Car provided. Daily help kept. Every facility. Top salary for this important appointment. Secretarial skills an advantage.

Please write with full details and recent photograph to BOX A10

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

Recruitment Consultants

BRAZILIAN Portuguese and equally fluent English (including English shorthand). Varied, responsible and active role for PA/secretary to act as back-up to top bank Director. Lots of scope to organise a busy professional life. To £12,000 plus package.

FRENCH fluent and English flawless? Charming and marketing-oriented bank General Manager needs an experienced, elegant and flexible PA/secretary with English and French shorthand in good working order. French spoken a lot. To £11,000 plus package.

01 836 3794

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

FULL TIME

SECRETARY NEEDED

with basic computer knowledge and good administrative ability. No shorthand, to work in small busy office in SW area. Must be able to use initiative and work under pressure. Sense of humour essential, age 20-30.

Salary negotiable aae.

Please contact Liz Robson on 627 1400 or

228 9012 for further details

SECRET
OVERSEAS OP

BRV Brown

MANAGER ESS MAYFAIR

ALL THE RESPONSIBILITY

The requirement is for a mature, experienced, confident and capable person to take charge of the day-to-day running of the company. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment, training and supervision of staff. The salary is £12,000 per annum plus benefits. Please send your CV to: The Director, 50 Highgate Road, London N6 6PU.

The Director

50 Highgate Road

LONDON N6 6PU

Recruitment Consultants

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SECRETARIAL OVERSEAS OPPORTUNITIES

Brown & Root Vickers Limited has vacancies for first class candidates to work overseas joining a large team engaged in the engineering and management of an original water supply project.

Applicants must be 35+ and have excellent secretarial skills (120/60 wpm minimum), and have in-depth knowledge of word processing preferably on IBM Word Star. Previous overseas experience - especially in a Middle Eastern or an African environment - would be an advantage, together with the ability to work in a pressurised situation.

An attractive remuneration package will be offered including tax free salary, free board, five home leaves with flights paid, per year plus non-contributory pension, free life assurance and medical schemes.

Please apply in writing to Linda Coote, Project Personnel Co-ordinator, Brown & Root Vickers Limited, 31 Fairfield West, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. Telephone: 01-541 2200, ext. 240.

BRV

Brown & Root Vickers

SITUATIONS UNWANTED

IVOR THE TERRIBLE SEEKS MUSIC LOVING, EFFICIENCY ZEALOT FOR P.A. ROLE



Sure, he looks harmless enough. Even a bit cuddly. Don't be fooled for a minute. This man can be just as much of a most disagreeable little sod as you are ever likely to meet. But he has a heart of gold and does tell a great story.

He's looking for someone with impeccable secretarial skills and a patient disposition to organise his life. His ideal sparring partner is probably already working as an executive P.A. in a major British firm. In one of those few and far between jobs that actually let her use her languages. By day she's a tough cookie who handles meetings on her boss's behalf. At night she's a charming hostess who can feign interest in virtually any hobby and always remembers the client's names. You may be asking yourself why anyone would leave a job like that to go

and work for a hi-fi enthusiast with a personality problem? Equally bizarre is the fact that one of Ivor's previous P.A.s came back to go a few more rounds. But then, she did have masochistic tendencies.

Ivor's main dilemma is that he doesn't really want to be a P.A. He wants to have the final say on anything and everything. But he wants you to do all the leg-work on the way. So that he can be free to do what he does best. Whatever that is.

Your mission, should you choose to take it, will be to act as his foil. Because, more than anything else, Ivor is a PR liability. So, for example, when he tells a major client or a member of the press that they are 'human debris' you'll be there to assure them that he meant it in the nicest possible way. Because the Linn range is currently exported to more than 35 countries, they already amount to a small scale diplomatic mission. (Did we mention that the ideal candidate has a lifestyle which is flexible enough to allow for 'short-notice foreign travel'?)

And since Ivor can be just as rude in Glasgow as he is in New York there are always plenty of raw nerves to soothe amongst the staff.

It's a case of great job - shame about the boss.

With their complete range of the best sounding hi-fi equipment available in Britain today Linn is poised to implement its goal for the 21st Century. World domination.

So if you think you have what it takes to work in an environment where nothing is ever fully explained, and everyone is screaming at you for the answers, we'd like to meet you. Anyone who survives the first interview stage will automatically qualify for the next round of Endurance.

Write, enclosing one-page CV to: Ivor S. Tienbrun, Managing Director, Linn Products Limited, Floors Road, Waterfoot, Eaglesham, Glasgow G76 0EP.

PERSONNEL STEPPING STONE

Looking for the right opportunity to build on your proven sec and admin experience? A high profile opening has arisen, offering excellent training, challenge and scope, to work with the charming Personnel and Administration Manager of a successful, progressive and expanding specialist retail co.

Working from their superb, hi-tech flag ship H.Q. in W1, you will need to be ambitious, enthusiastic, with the ability to use your initiative under pressure and keep one step ahead.

Your duties include liaison with all levels of staff, setting-up and maintaining computerised personnel systems, office and building admin and sec support. (Snd or audio/typ/WRP). Sal c.£11,000 + good benefits. Age range 20s. Please call:

437 6032

HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ADMINISTRATOR-SECRETARY

One of London's most prestigious car showrooms needs a young administrator for a variety of responsibilities. Very little secretarial work but lots of admin and client contact and a chance to make an early move from the secretarial mould.

BACH-ESCHER RECRUITMENT
01 493 2560

KEY SECRETARY

For a small international Engineering Co. in the City. Very good salary and benefits. Please apply to: Mr. J. H. Smith, 10, St. James's Place, London W1A 1AB.

Creme de la Creme

£12,000 plus benefits

Enjoy the taste of country house living in the heart of SW1. Our clients, leaders amongst the cream of London's Executive Search consultancies, now seek an additional Secretary. Working in an elegant and very social environment, you will handle extensive VIP liaison, organise and attend client lunches, set up client, candidate meetings, deal with office admin and become involved in research. Lovely 'college' atmosphere! Social confidence essential. Skills 80+/50. Age 22+. Please call 01-493 5747.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants

MALE SECRETARY

Dhahran Medical Centre

AMI Saudi Arabia Ltd one of the leading health care companies in the Middle East, requires a secretary to assist the Hospital Director of a new specialist referral hospital and teaching academy for the employees and dependants of the Ministry of Defence and Aviation.

Candidates should be aged 25+ years and have excellent secretarial skills 60/90 wpm with a minimum of 4 years experience as a personal secretary.

An attractive benefit package and competitive TAX FREE SALARY is offered to the selected candidate.

Please write with your work history to: Ruth Jameson, AMI, Middle East Services Ltd, 7/9 St James's Street, London SW1A 1EE or telephone 01 839 3812/01 409 1680.

BANNA

PUBLIC RELATIONS PA

To £12,000 @ 22 - 28

The MD of this great Consultancy based in Chancery Lane needs a well-organised P.A. You will be involved from day one in all

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SECOND TO NONE

Second to none we certainly are. We specialise in temporary assignments for proven P.A.s with good shorthand and typing and preferably WP skills. We can offer immediate and continuous temporary work throughout the winter at very good rates.

Carrington House, 130 Regent St., LONDON W1 Tel: 01-439 0601 (Entrance in Regent Place above Iberia Airways)

MacBlain NASH
Temporary Secretaries

Hatton Garden £12,000+

Young and expanding EC1 based jewellers is looking for a P.A./administrator to work closely with and for the Company Director. The secretarial workload is not heavy, as the emphasis is on handling financial transactions and currency conversions: numeracy is therefore essential.

Graduate Assistant £12,000 a.a.e.

Two clients (based in W1 and SW5) require Graduate P.A.s. Are you a fast thinker with a flair for business? If so - and if you are able to work on your own, as well as absorb a variety of responsibilities, we would be very interested to discuss your potential. Skills: Typing 50+, some audio & WP.

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS

7 PRINCES STREET, W.1. 01-497 7282

CAROLINE KING

Interior Design £10,000

Fantastic opportunity for someone who wants to work for a top designer. He needs you to help him search for materials, furniture and objects d'art and possibly travel with him to put the finishing touches to these outstanding properties. Someone who knows who's who in this field is highly desirable. Typing 50wpm.

Property £11,500

This dynamic by appreciative executive needs a top PA to totally organize him and get involved in day to day office management. Speedy typing important so you can learn about every aspect of this varied job.

Please telephone: 01-499 8070

87 Bond Street London W.1.

CAROLINE KING SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

PA/SECRETARY £13,000

Would you enjoy working in a stimulating environment with extremely nice people, have lots to do and be responsible for two junior staff? Managing Director of large City Co requires a bright P.A./Sec capable of working on own initiative. Various interesting roles requiring a good communicator with excellent organisational ability. Previous insurance exp would be useful but is not essential. Age 23+. Skills 100/60. Good benefits include profit share scheme.

Please ring 734 6080

CROSS

SELECTION

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

THE COLLEGE LEAVERS COLUMN

Specialists for the 18-25 year olds

MAYFAIR DRINKS

A UK market leader in the sophisticated world of drinks seeks a secretary to work in their marketing department helping to promote and market their famous product. Lots of involvement with an excellent opportunity to get into marketing.

TRAINEE CO-SEC

Major p.l.c. wish to recruit a young secretary to become Company Secretary. Salary is excellent, training superb, study leave offered - a really good package.

BI-LINGUAL OIL

International oil giant seeks a secretary to join their small European oil department. Plenty of scope for advancement (previous secretary promoted). The department uses most European languages and it is therefore ideal if you have one of the following: Italian, French, German, Spanish or any Scandinavian language.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Small expanding PR consultancy, well known in the field for their creativity, seek a young secretary to join one of their account teams. Lots of involvement, really interesting environment.

COMPACT DISCS

A major force in this new, exciting market requires a young secretary to join one of their key support management teams. Very busy hectic job with good package including discount from their products.

01-437 6314

FINESS

APPOINTMENTS LTD

DESIGN CONSULTANCY

Busy, successful Design Consultancy in Central London needs a friendly, capable, organised and experienced Receptionist. Salary negotiable. Age 25+.

Contact: Mimi Macdon on 01 434 0877

PA TO MD £13,000

International computer group based W1 seek senior sec for MD. At this level, skills would be appreciated. Duties to incl. admin and world class client liaison.

Details: 01 408 1220

Steve Mills

(rec cons)

MERRYWEATHER

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

01-493 0713

PA TO MD £13,000

International computer group based W1 seek senior sec for MD. At this level, skills would be appreciated. Duties to incl. admin and world class client liaison.

Details: 01 408 1220

Steve Mills

(rec cons)

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

P.A. to MARKETING DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Salary negotiable North London

Are you in your 20's, perhaps a graduate, certainly enthusiastic and motivated with good secretarial and administrative skills?

Are you also a good communicator with a creative flair and a marketing instinct?

Deeko PLC, leading manufacturers of design led disposable tableware and paper products for the home and catering industry, are looking for a Personal Assistant to the Marketing Development Manager.

You will join a team that initiates and co-ordinates all aspects of design, artwork, promotion and packaging for different product areas.

If you are interested please Chris Pickard: 01-808 5871 or write to him at: Deeko Plc., Garman Road, London N17 0UG.

Deeko PLC

HIGH FLYER

£14,000 ++

Immaculate presentation, well educated and sound experience at senior level to assist Chairman of International group of companies with all private, social and business activities. Excellent secretarial skills 90/90 and sense of humour essential. Age 25-35

CELEBRITY SPORTS

£12,000

An exciting opportunity for sports enthusiast with brilliant secretarial and communication skills to assist M.D. of this exciting sports company involved in all major sporting events. Excellent secretarial skills 100/90. Age 25-35.

STUDIO ADMINISTRATOR

£10,000 Neg

Take total responsibility for all planning, organising and co-ordinating for the studio of this international successful design company. Numerate with 50 wpm typing. Age 21+

Handle Recruitment

10 New Bond St, London W1

01-493 1184

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

SECRETARY/ADMIN PERSONNEL STOCKBROKING

This is a unique position for a young secretary (age 20+) wishing to work within a busy personnel dept without necessarily having previous stockbroking experience. Applicants should have a strong administrative background and be able to provide secretarial cover (not necessarily cover) for a very dedicated personnel team. Salary £12,500 + 10% bonus, subsidised mortgage, BUPA, pension, etc.

Salary within the range of £7,721 - £28,184 incl. L.W. Appointing with C.V. to: Maria Whitworth, Department of Computer Science, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. (Tel: 01 269 7290).

Tel Angus Watson on 01 925 1281

Monument Personnel Consultants, 20 Eastcheap, London EC3

For further details telephone (01) 589 5111 Ext. 6498

Closing date: 20 November 1987.

SECRETARY

Salary £8,790 - £9,654

(from 1 February £8,988 - £9,873)

An experienced secretary is required for the Deputy Chief Executive and Clerk. You will also undertake secretarial work for the Chairman of the Council.

Good shorthand and typing skills and a high level of organising ability are required, and you must be able to demonstrate both the personality and confidence to deal with a range of important contacts in a pleasant and efficient manner.

A competitive relocation package worth up to £3,500 will be payable in approved cases and temporary housing may be available. A flexible working hours scheme is in operation.

Application form and further details available from County Personnel Officer, County Hall, Chelmsford CM1 1LX. Telephone: Chelmsford (0245) 492211 extension 24101. Closing date: 13 November 1987.

ESSEX County Council

Director's SECRETARY

A newly established post of Secretary/Administrative Assistant has been created to provide a first class secretarial service to the RCN's recently appointed Director of Administration.

You will need to be a good organiser, identify priorities and be able to service meetings and working parties. Excellent secretarial skills, gained over several years at senior level, and proven word processing abilities are essential.

Salary within the range £9,900 - £11,800 pa and staff benefits include 32 days holiday and a non-smoking environment.

For further details and an application form contact the Personnel Assistant on 01-408 3333 ext. 346 or write to her at the Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB, quoting ref: 1094. Closing date for return of forms: 13th November 1987.

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Private office x 2 Directors

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A job with a difference. An energetic and enthusiastic person required to coordinate a small shop fitting team to their new offices. Must be of intelligent nature. No short hand required but accurate typing 30 wpm. Good presentation skills. No short hand required but accurate typing 30 wpm. Good presentation skills. No short hand required but accurate typing 30 wpm. Good presentation skills.

Apply to: Janet Spearman on 01 223 9294/8828.

FRANCE

International Estate Agency seeks French speaking manager to handle sales of property in France (mainly Paris and Normandy). Must be a native speaker of French. Real estate experience not necessary but ability to sell is essential. Good salary and commission.

Apply to: Caroline Johnson, 187 Kensington, SW7 5RS. 01 581 1976/2174.

SECRETARY

£8,500-£9,500

Small friendly piano company in NW1 requires a secretary with shorthand, WP and good telephone manner.

Please send CV to: Property Services, P.O. Box 17, London W2 6RX or ring 221 1660

RECEPTIONIST

PART-TIME (2 1/2 days per week)

Vitra, a leading international furniture company based in Mayfair require a part-time receptionist. Applicants must have an attractive personality and enjoy doing a variety of work in a friendly showroom environment. Accurate typing and good telephone manner are essential.

Please apply to: Janine Barton, Vitra UK, 13 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9FB.

SAUDI ARABIAN PERSONNEL OFFICE

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATION

The S.P.O. agency needs a Secretary/Recruitment Administrator Qual Good secretarial skills and word processing experience. Diploma in Secretarial Studies, French or German Language would be an advantage. Normal hours 9am - 4pm. Monday - Friday. Salary negotiable a/c.

Please send CV (Ref:218) to: Saudi Personnel Office, Suite 14th Floor, 1 Great Cumberland Place, London W1N 7AL. Tel. 724-6897

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Dabble in Marketing, PR & Advertising - organising sponsorship & exhibitions, entertaining clients, helping with research and promoting a young, go ahead team as a team Assistant with minimal secretarial back-up.

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This is a unique position for a young secretary (age 20+) wishing to work within a busy personnel dept without necessarily having previous stockbroking experience. Applicants should have a strong administrative background and be able to provide secretarial cover (not necessarily cover) for a very dedicated personnel team. Salary £12,500 + 10% bonus, subsidised mortgage, BUPA, pension, etc.

Salary within the range of £7,721 - £28,184 incl. L.W. Appointing with C.V. to: Maria Whitworth, Department of Computer Science, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. (Tel: 01 269 7290).

Tel Angus Watson on 01 925 1281

Monument Personnel Consultants, 20 Eastcheap, London EC3

For further details telephone (01) 589 5111 Ext. 6498

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£8,500 + Benefits

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The successful applicant will be required to deal with people at all levels (total staff 25), be flexible, self-motivated and well organized. Confidence, professionalism and the ability to work well under pressure are also desirable attributes. It is unlikely that applicants under the age of 30 will possess the requisite experience (or maturity).

Excellent working conditions, central London location, negotiable salary - but not less than £11,500 p.a., private medical care, contributory pension, etc.

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CBS Records International, based in Mayfair, are looking for a senior secretary to work for the Vice President Operations. The VP is responsible for the manufacturing operations of CRI in Europe and spends a good deal of his time visiting the various sites. He is looking for an experienced secretary to assist him in all aspects of his busy job including running the department when he is away and acting as his confidential P.A. You will require excellent secretarial skills, with the emphasis on audio, be able to work under pressure at times and to use your own initiative and be self-motivated. A second language would be advantageous as would experience of working in an international/financial/manufacturing environment, although this is not essential.

Excellent benefits include an extremely competitive salary, 25 days holiday, discount on records and free concert tickets. Please write enclosing CV to: Ann Nicholson, CBS Records International Ltd, 1 Red Place, London, W1Y 3RE or telephone on 01 629-5555

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THAMES

THAMES in 20,000 sq. ft. The Thames common room requires a part-time receptionist aged 20-40 during term time (10.00am - 10.00pm) 2 evenings weekly to Friday. Evening dress provided in addition to salary. Must be conscientious, unfatigable, capable and VERY IMPORTANT - like people! Suit person unable to work during day or with part-time job elsewhere. Preferred age 25-45.

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WITNESS in 20,000 sq. ft. The Witness common room requires a part-time receptionist aged 20-40 during term time (10.00am - 10.00pm) 2 evenings weekly to Friday. Evening dress provided in addition to salary. Must be conscientious, unfatigable, capable and VERY IMPORTANT - like people! Suit person unable to work during day or with part-time job elsewhere. Preferred age 25-45.

PA to Vice Chairman

£14,000

PA/Sec for Hotel Chief £12,000

Uppermart Receptionist £10,000

Audio/VP Publishing £9,500

Typing + Interior Design £8,000

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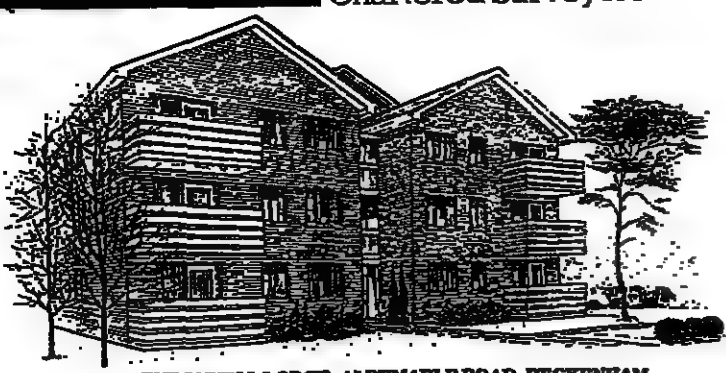
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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY/2

Lower house prices on the way?

Two weeks after the Stock Market crash a less bullish assessment of the property market and its future is emerging after the optimism of the first snap judgments, writes Christopher Warman.

Savills, which has been comparing the situation in the last fortnight with the long down-turn between 1973 and 1975, concludes: "We are not predicting a slump in house prices but disagree with the view of many agents that the house market will not be affected."

"It is Savills' view that the property market has been overbought, particularly in the last few months, with premiums of up to 15 per cent being obtained on many properties."

The firm has already said that prices would level off this autumn, and it believes that these premiums will no longer be available. "While prime properties in central London will retain their current value, but without a premium, those which are poorly presented and over-priced will fall by up to 10 per cent."

"In the country the commuting belt, especially south of London, is likely to see a drift in value over the winter months of some 5-10 per cent."

Looking west of London, Savills sees a continuing real shortage of quality

property which should underpin the market, but it predicts no further rise in value. Similarly in East Anglia where values have risen, most noticeably in 1987 on the back of improved communications, it sees no further rise in value before next spring.

"Further afield where the influence of the City is less predominant and the Stock Market seen as rather remote, local business prosperity should prevent any-

The agents forecast a slow-down in turnover

thing other than a small drop in value."

In the period January 1973 to January 1975, Savills recalls that the UK Stock Market dropped 71.3 per cent. Interest rates peaked at 13.5 per cent and averaged 10.8 per cent, inflation averaged 16.5 per cent and the residential property market dropped by 31 per cent in real terms. In the last two weeks of October, the UK Stock Market dropped by 24 per cent, while inflation was 4.2 per cent and interest rates 9.5 per cent.

Savills comments that the noticeable difference is in the 1987 inflation and interest rates which, it says, "would

appear to confirm the belief that the economy is far more under control now than 14 years ago."

There can be few in the property world, however, who have not been concerned as to how the Stock Market collapse will affect their market place, and Savills accordingly expects a slowing down in turnover in the next few months, with many purchasers waiting to see what happens.

David Mitchell, a partner in Drewett Neate country house department based in Newbury, Berkshire, argues that residential property values cannot avoid the knock-on effect of the collapse, and believes the market at greatest risk must be in London, especially in the Docklands and other new developments, where some people buy for investment.

"This group does not have to buy and may hold back, forcing a price reduction of 10 per cent to keep up sales momentum."

In the country house market, those buying the most expensive, at more than £1 million, may pause awhile. But, says Mr Mitchell, the relevance of the Stock Market diminishes with the price band. "Below £500,000 it starts to become irrelevant and below £300,000 it is irrelevant."

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| HIGH SEASON (RED)..... | £1,995 |
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While the courts decide the future of the America's Cup, one British yachtsman masterminds his challenge

De Savary keeps ahead of the clock

The vacuum created around the America's Cup by a court battle currently being waged in New York by the New Zealanders, in an effort to force the San Diego Yacht Club to accept their controversial challenge in super-maxi yachts, may have forced some syndicates into hibernation — but not Peter de Savary's Blue Arrow challenge.

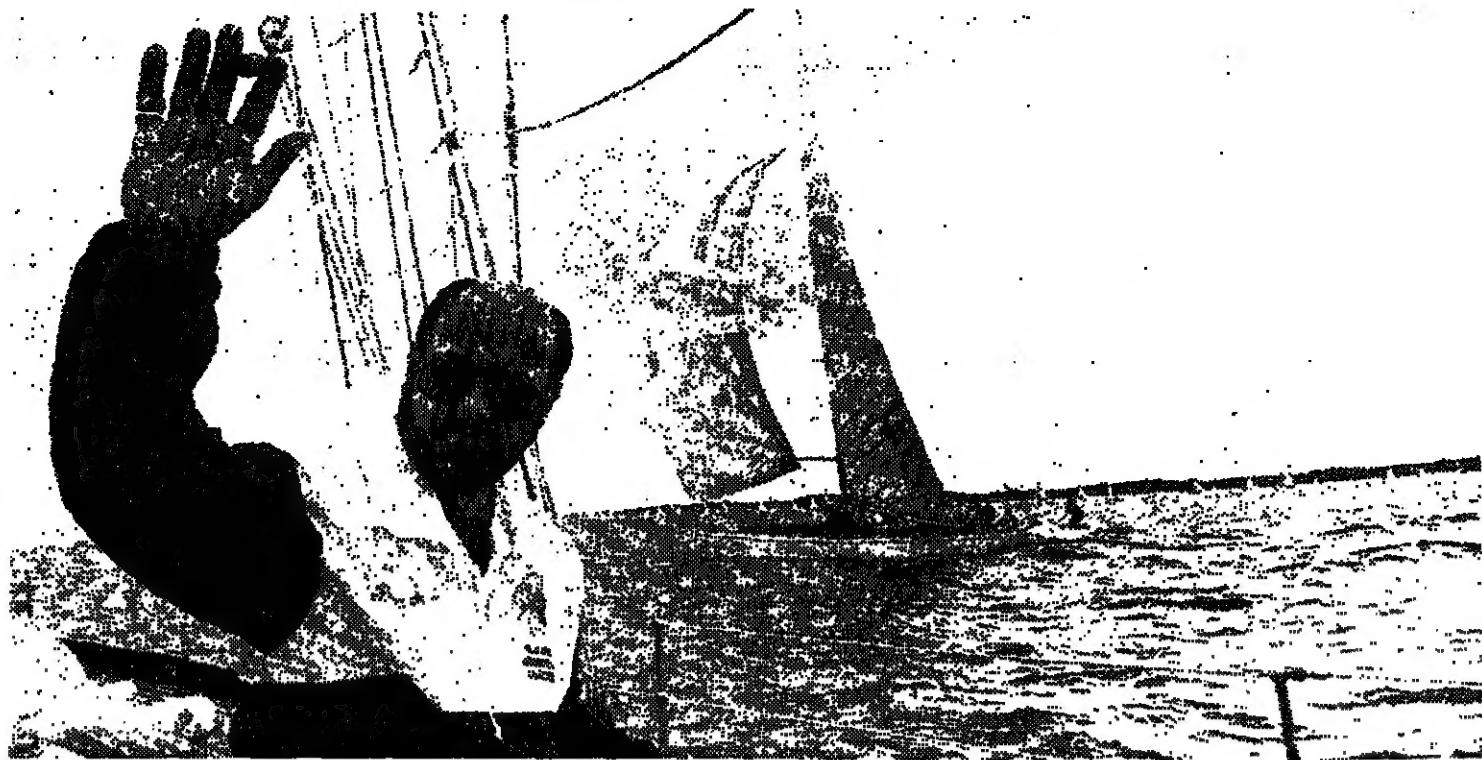
"Not many people seem to realize that the clock is ticking away. Others may have laid off their staff but we are going all-out to produce a competitive 12-metre, 90ft challenger simultaneously," the entrepreneur, aged 43, emphasized yesterday.

The stock market slump has done nothing to blunt de Savary's bullish enthusiasm to complete the "unfinished business" of his Victory campaign in 1983, when the "wing-keeled wonder" Australia II, not only sunk British hopes but broke the New York Yacht Club's 132-year reign in the competition.

Far from laying staff off, the Blue Arrow camp, headed on the water by Chris Law, is now 30-strong, with three designers working under the direction of Derek Clark, a computer expert, to produce racing-winning 12-metre and super-maxi designs.

To a great extent the 12-metre is evolutionary, but the super-maxi is a revolutionary concept allowing Blue Arrow's fertile design team of Tony Castro, Ed Dubois and Rob Humphreys the opportunity to let their imagination run free.

Based at a new design centre in Southampton, equipped with the latest Integraph Cad-cam number



Wave from the waves: de Savary on the water as he prepares his next challenge, with Blue Arrow (formerly Victory '82) in the background

crunchers, the team has already produced four futuristic maxi designs, of varying displacement, to beat New Zealand's 110ft monster already under construction in Auckland and anything San Diego may be forced to produce should the current court case in New York go against them.

Present thinking calls for a 120ft

composite structured cigar-shaped hull, powered by an articulating wing mast standing 135ft above deck. According to Clark, Blue Arrows' project coordinator, the high-tech balanced rig, developed from the C-class catamarans used in the Little America's Cup, will power the narrow wave-piercing hull to windward at 12 knots in a

10-knot true breeze and speed the vessel at over 18 knots off the wind when her spinnaker is set on a 10ft long bow sprit.

The helmsman will sit forward of the mast steering the boat through computer-controlled rudders. The underwater foil, including the fore and aft rudders, will articulate to maximize lift at different points of

sailing, while the main keel will retract, allowing draught to be varied from 12 to 27 feet.

The crew, which will number 36, will be stationed in the aeroflex central wing, which is designed to flood on the windward side to improve stability.

De Savary also announced yes-

terday that the group's training base at Falmouth Docks will be completed by Easter and construction of the first 12 metre will commence there in July. Residing of the composite "82" boat — as the New Zealanders have coined this proposed maxi-class — will be in the Solent area, if the court rules in favour of New Zealand before the New Year.

Unlike other syndicate heads, de Savary remains philosophical about the possibility of racing for the America's Cup in these high-tech monster yachts.

"Arguments of this nature have run throughout the history of the America's Cup. The Deed of Gift (which controls the event) gives the Cup series its magic and this whole play is a vital part of the America's Cup."

"The San Diegans made the mistake of losing sight of the main objective. They spent the first five months arguing among themselves how they were going to make money out of this event, dividing up the real estate deals instead of focusing on defending the trophy, and deserve all they are getting now," de Savary said.

The man with the bulldog motif believes that whichever way the court rules, the odds will remain against the defender. "The challengers are going to be very strong next time. Conner is unlikely to get very much competition at home. And my money is on him losing the cup — as well as winning it back for Britain."

Barry Pickthall

RUGBY LEAGUE

Switching to be outlawed

By Keith Macklin

One of the more irritating practices in the game will be outlawed by the Rugby Football League. For many seasons the game has been plagued, to the annoyance of spectators and journalists, by the habit of some teams and players switching jersey numbers without any public announcement being made.

As a result, the wingers have switched the 2 and 3 jerseys, centres have switched from 3 to 4 or vice versa, and one of the more common exchanges has been in the 11 and 12 jerseys of the second-row forwards.

Spectators who have no detailed knowledge of visiting sides have thus been unaware of the changes, and many times journalists have been caught out and have ascribed tries and goals to the wrong player.

The league management committee has now decided to punish the practice, which is largely the result of carelessness or players' and coaches' whims. A circular has been distributed to all clubs stating that in future a detailed team sheet must be placed on dressing room doors at all first team fixtures half an hour before the kick off. Any discrepancy between the printed teams and the numbers on the field of play will result in heavy fines.

A particularly notorious example of the effect of number switching occurred in a Wembley Challenge Cup final involving Widnes in the 1970s. The second-row men, John Foran and Mick Adams, both of similar build, swapped numbers, and it was late in the first half before the large Wembley Press corps realized that the change had been made.

BASKETBALL

Spaid's fitness heartening for England

By Nicholas Harding

The recovery of Mike Spaid, the 6ft 10in Portsmouth forward, from a hand injury is just the heartening news that England need for their daunting task against Czechoslovakia in the second of their semi-final group A games, at Leicester tonight.

Spaid, who missed England's 116-66 defeat in Greece in Salonika, proved his fitness in Portsmouth's overwhelming Carlsberg League victory against Oldham Celts. One of the most reliable players in the squad, Spaid could give the squad the lift they so obviously require.

Like England, Czechoslovakia also lost their first game in the group last week when they were beaten 86-79 in Bratislava by The Netherlands. If England can emulate the Dutch achievement in limiting the high-scoring Czechoslovaks to 10 points, they may go some way to repeating their feat of three years ago, when they defeated the Czechoslovaks by one point in a magnificent World Cup encounter on the same Leicester court.

The chief problem for the England coach, David Tritton, will be to raise the morale of players, whose confidence was obviously shattered in Salonika. "I had a sore head," Tritton said, explaining why he had had a weekend off from basketball, deciding against even taking in a game at his local club, Hemel Hempstead.

England seem to have cut off their nose to spite their face by withdrawing Kenny Scott from the squad as punishment for controversially pulling out of the Greek trip two hours before departure. The Polycell Kingston forward's "personal reasons" were believed to involve the return of his girlfriend, Erin, from the United States.

RUGBY UNION: LEARNING PROCESS BEARS FRUIT FOR AMERICAN EAGLES

Pembroke stretched to Lancashire call their limit by Williams

By Gerald Davies

Pembroke 15 American Eagles 21

The sun shone at Parc Llyn Tey Gwyn in Whilland yesterday and both teams matched the conditions with a sprightly game. If the essential driving force was missing from much of the play there was little that could be termed static.

Mr Trigg, the referee, played his part too. There was plenty that was lively and the American Eagles will be more than happy to have won their penultimate game by a goal, four penalties and a dropped goal to a goal and three penalties.

The Eagles were missing five of the forwards who helped to beat North last Saturday. However, Sydurtka had a fine game on the flank as did both locks, Ridwell and Crivellone. But their moving spirit is Mark Williams. It is around him that things begin to happen, and once more it was he who got the majority of the points.

As in the opening match, against Brecon, the curious factor was not so much his

accuracy, but rather at what distance he was unwilling to have a go. He tried from everywhere. The two penalties he got in the first half, which gave his team the lead, were near enough to 60 metres. Anything closer than this, it seems, is of very modest range for him.

After John had reduced the deficit with a penalty, the Welsh side scored a superb try. Dominic Setaro made the breach, entering the three-quarter line from full back, and Rogers carried it on. With Frank Setaro, Reynolds and Morgan running in support, Setaro reappeared to get the try. John converted this as well as kicking a penalty before half-time to give them the lead.

With Caulder having to come off, the Eagles had to reshuffle their line. Stenographer coming in at centre and Williams moving to stand-off half. Almost as soon as Williams had moved, he was scoring with a penalty from 35 metres.

It was Williams who also created the tourists' try. He came away on the blind side, kicking his own 22 metre line then kicked deep. Pembrokeshire

seemed to have the players to cover it, but the ball bounced to elude them all for Saunders to latch on to it and score under the posts. Williams converted this as well as kicking another of his long-range penalties.

That score seemed to settle it, but Pembrokeshire's counter attacks, allied to good handling, always kept them in with a chance. A penalty by John, though, was their only response and in the second minute of injury time Williams dropped a goal to bring his personal total to 17 points.

SCORERS: Pembrokeshire: Try: F. Setaro. Conversion: John. Penalties: John. American Eagles: Try: Mark Williams. Conversion: Williams. Penalties: Williams (4). Dropped goal: M. Williams. D. Setaro (Whilland, 15.00). American Eagles: Try: F. Setaro. Conversion: Williams. Penalties: Williams (4). Dropped goal: M. Williams. D. Setaro (Whilland, 15.00).

Williams, who has been playing for the local Pines club, a hamstring injury restricted Williams to representative appearances for Transvaal's B squad but Winterbottom played in the full Transvaal side for the Currie Cup semi-finals and gained a reserve's place for the final against the eventual winners, Northern Transvaal.

The ambitions of Williams and Winterbottom, will now be centred on retaining their England places. Williams at half and Winterbottom at flanker. Williams was swiftly back in action last weekend, helping Orrell to victory over Richmond, and he will hope to make his debut in the new British and Irish Club Championship in the first division game against Sale on Saturday.

Lancashire have selected Peter Cook in their back row against Cumbria, his previous injury games having been with Notts, Lincs and Derby though he was a Lancashire colts player.

Winterbottom also played at the weekend, but for Headingley Seconds and he wanted more time to find his feet (his previous game was several weeks ago) by being named on for Yorkshire. His place against Cheshire goes to a newcomer, Sean Bainbridge of Roundhay. Another England player to withdraw from Yorkshire's side is Garry Hoggins, who has been required by the Combined Services. His place on the left wing goes to his Leicester colleague, Steve Burnhill.

Durham, after losing their opening game to Cumbria, have made several changes for the match with Northumberland at Durham City. Mike Horrocks, Taylor, the Durham University prop, makes his debut.

The London counties move into action today too: Hertfordshire meet Eastern Counties this afternoon at Croyley Green while Sussex play Hampshire at Brighton, also in London pool B.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

UNITED STATES: National League (NFL) Dallas Cowboys 33, New York Giants 24.

CYCLING

GENOISE: Six-day race (Preston): 1. B. Voller and C. Moller (P), 230pts; 2. A. Doyle (GB) and D. Moller (P), 230pts; 3. P. Voller and P. Doyle (GB), 110pts.

FOOTBALL

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Bolton Wanderers 4, Hull City 1; Exeter City 2, Stevenage 0.

GM ACCEPTANCE CUP: First round: Crystal Palace 1, Wokingham 0; Basingstoke 2, Havant 0.

BRITISH HONOR LEAGUE: Second round: Wokingham 2, Havant 0; Basingstoke 2, Havant 0.

RUSSIAN LEAGUE: Second round: Wokingham 2, Havant 0; Basingstoke 2, Havant 0.

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Sport may benefit from betting levy

By John Goodbody

Lord Newall will propose in the House of Lords tomorrow that there should be a levy on all betting on sport, which totals £4 billion, and a percentage given to the governing body.

The proposal, made by the chairman of the British Greyhound Racing Board, is contained in an amendment to the Sunday Sports Bill and would principally affect greyhound racing but could also affect horse racing, cricket, golf, snooker and boxing. The amendment has all-party support.

Only two sports presently get the benefit of the betting on their sport. Horse racing receives £25 million a year from the Betting Levy Board while the Football League, who has the copyright on its fixtures, receives £60 million a year from each shop where betting is placed.

"If one or two sports benefit then so should all the others," Peter Lawson, the Secretary of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, says. About 75 per cent of all off-course betting is on horses and over 20 per cent on greyhounds with the remaining percentage coming from other sports, including football.

All bookmakers charge winning punters more than statutory eight per cent deducted from betting tax. In horse racing, some of the best trainers, such as the £25 million paid to the Levy Board.

By David Miller

University, this year's European junior champion over 3,000 metres.

Grants from the SAF since 1976, when 70 sponsored competitors were among the Olympic team in Montreal, will approach £5 million by the time of the Seoul Olympic Games.

A total of 5,000 sportsmen and women have been granted, including past Olympic champions, Robin Cousins, Christopher Dean and Jayne Torvill, Sebastian Coe, Dale Thompson, Tessa Sanderson, Duncan Goodhew, Steve Redgrave and Andy Holmes.

Winchester recover to hit four

Schools football: 1. George Chesterton

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Winchester recover to hit four

Sport may benefit from betting levy

By John Goodbody

Lord Newall will propose in the House of Lords tomorrow that there should be a levy on all betting on sport, which totals £4 billion, and a percentage given to the governing body.

The proposal, made by the chairman of the British Greyhound Racing Board, is contained in an amendment to the Sunday Sports

FOOTBALL: THE SCOTTISH CHAMPIONS MAY HAVE TO DIG DEEP DURING THEIR EUROPEAN CUP TIE IN A POLISH MINING TOWN

Anxious Dutch hope for calm

Preyed-on Rangers out to quell the jackal in Mr Hyde

From Clive White, Rotterdam

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Zabrze

As is the way with diseases, just as the English seem to have found an antidote for their football sickness so a new strain has emerged to threaten Europe. Tonight the Dutch case comes under the microscope and unless it is kept in check they could find themselves the new lepers of international football.

There is a further danger of British contamination tonight as Aberdeen, the Scottish premier division club, come into what threatens to be a fierce contact with Feyenoord, who are still seething about the circumstances in which they suffered a 2-1 defeat in the first leg of this UEFA Cup second round tie at Stadion Feijenoord when they had a player sent off.

But Feyenoord's fury will need to be properly channelled. The last thing that Dutch football wants just now is players inciting a riot. Aberdeen, who are not renowned for crowd misbehaviour, will have the support of an estimated 2,000 followers. Recent evidence shows, though, that the Dutch vandals need no encouragement.

The Dutch authorities, and the country as a whole, will be holding its breath in the hope that their supporters cause no trouble in any one of five possible flashpoints around Europe. Wim Yassa, the Dutch FA secretary, said yesterday that it could have a "catastrophic effect" on the fortunes of the national side, whose participation in the European Championship finals already hangs in the balance.

UEFA's disciplinary committee met in Bern next week to discuss what action they should take against The Netherlands following the tie against Cyprus here in Rotterdam last week when the Cypriot goalkeeper was struck in the face by a smoke bomb for which a man has since been charged with attempted murder.

At the very least UEFA are likely to award the two points to Cyprus, but further criminal behaviour by Dutch supporters could persuade the ruling body to decide that they do not want The Netherlands in next year's finals in West Germany.

Ian Porterfield, the Aberdeen manager, welcomed the appointment of Michel Vautrot, of France, as referee for the game in the Feyenoord stadium. He said: "I'm delighted UEFA have responded to my call for a strong referee." But he added, not a little provocatively, "We will not let ourselves be pushed around."

"Anyway, with players like McLeish and Nicholas that is not likely to happen. We're no meanly punished if we are given us protection I'm confident we will go through."

The Dutch, it would appear, would be well advised to keep their distance, particularly from Hewitt, Aberdeen's match-winner in the Cup Winners' Cup final four years ago. He had here yesterday wearing three jumpers and suffering from a virus as well as a back injury. Porterfield decided to give modern medicine a helping hand and the player's recovery by packing him straight off to bed.

Wherever Glasgow Rangers look nowadays, they face judgment. A few days after three of their players learned that they may be taken to court for their misbehaviour at home, the discipline of the whole team is to be put on trial here this evening in an Upper Silesian field.

The foreign courtroom for the European Cup second round tie holds only 20,000 spectators. Gornik Zabrze, who confessed that they were petrified by the noise generated within the Ibrox stadium a fortnight ago, have pleaded with their own supporters to create a similarly intimidating atmosphere rather than in the more spacious arena in nearby Katowice.

If Gornik and their crowd catch the scent of an uncertain evening, Rangers are sure to find the little ground cold and lonely place. The initial stages are, therefore, crucial and particularly as Graeme Souness concedes that that is when his side is at its most vulnerable.

"We are notoriously poor starters," the Rangers manager said yesterday, "and if we open badly, we will be in trouble." The 3-1 lead they gained in the astonishingly unpredictable first leg could suddenly appear to be dangerously slender should their concentration at the back be anything other than complete.

Gornik were feeble beyond belief in the first half at Glasgow. "Anyone watching them then would have wondered how they could have won their League," Souness added. But the Poles, three down at the interval and seemingly out of the Cup, were transformed and "showed they could play".

The Scots cannot rely on the utterly different side of Gornik's character, Mr Hyde, being exposed again. Their domestic form suggests that only the assured and potentially powerful nature, Dr Jekyll, will be displayed in front of their own audience. A 4-0 win over Widzew Lodz at the weekend maintained their position.

Holding an almost unassailable lead of six points, they are heavily favoured to claim their fourth successive title. Far away from the claustrophobic atmosphere of the Scottish premier division that is occasionally so fiery that it is unhealthy, Rangers have already confirmed that they can defend themselves adequately and legitimately.

Not surprisingly, Souness intends to retain most of the representatives and the formation that he employed during the creditable 1-0 defeat in Kiev in the first round. He has yet to announce his line-up, other than to state that Cooper will make his first appearance in this season's competition.

Suspended after being sent off against Borussia Mönchengladbach in the third round last season, Cooper is expected to replace the less mobile and less talented Falco. He will be asked to reproduce his display in the Skol Cup final, during which he was "as industrious as anybody in the side".

Although Souness stresses the need for caution, he plans to be more adventurous than in the Soviet Union, when McCoist was left on his own up front. Scotland's leading scorer remains the individual most feared by Marcin Boguski, the Gornik manager. Souness suggests that McCoist "could win it for us".

So could Woods, Butler and Roberts "if they play as well as they did in Kiev". Yet Souness is aware that his English imports, the three to be charged by the police, may understandably be affected by the traumatic events earlier in the week. "We won't know how they and the others react until tomorrow," he said.

The squad's preparations have undoubtedly been disturbed and their stamina has also been stretched through their involvement in three events. Tonight, amid the bleak and jagged landscape of Poland's mining centre, they must dig deep into their own cavern of mental strength and physical endurance.



Second chance: Cooper replaces Falco in Rangers' team to play Gornik in Poland tonight.

McLeod is ready to fill the breach

From a Special Correspondent, Ostrava

Joe McLeod, aged 19, who has not yet started a competitive match for Dundee United, could find himself in the front line when United attempt to overturn a 2-1 deficit in today's UEFA Cup second round second leg match against Vojvodina.

Jim McLeod, the United manager, has had his options curtailed because of injuries to several key players and will be missing Gallacher and Strurrock up front, Redford in midfield and Narey in defence.

The search for goals will be entrusted to an experienced forward, Ferguson, who will be linked in attack with either McLeod or the slightly more experienced Kinnaird.

Just 10 days ago McLeod returned from Chile, where he helped the Scotland youth team reach the quarter-finals of the World Championships. It was that experience which weighed heavily on McLeod as he contemplated his selection.

"Had he not been involved in South America, with all the pressures that went with that tournament, then it is doubtful if I would have considered him for a test of this nature," McLeod said.

Two disciplined over brawl

By Dennis Shaw

West Bromwich Albion have taken a party of players who returned to the hotel after a night out in Lagos. In a disturbance, Tony Morley, the former England winger, was struck in the face. Other players who tried to intervene became involved. There were strong complaints to the manager from other guests at the hotel.

Kelly, who recently visited a health farm because of a weight problem, was signed for £50,000 from Stoke only a few months ago.

Atkinson commented: "We have a strict code of conduct and the two players stepped over the mark. They have been severely disciplined and the matter is now closed."

Real under orders to attack

Richards regains his touch

By Gordon Allan

Oporto (Agencies) — Real Madrid, attempting to win the European Cup for a record seventh time, face a daunting task here tonight when they meet the holders, Porto, with a fragile 2-1 lead from the first leg of their second-round tie.

The Spanish champions, who have scored 32 goals and conceded only two in nine league matches this season, looked far from invincible in the first leg.

Porto and the 50,000 supporters who will pack the Azulejo stadium are aware that a 1-0 win will be enough to take Porto through on the away-goals rule. The attacking panache of the teams, both unbeaten in their domestic leagues this season, makes such a result look unlikely, however.

"One thing I can guarantee is that we will attack," Leo Beenhakker, Real's Dutch coach, said.

Bayern Munich, worried by a spate of injuries and erratic form, will aim to recover the style that carried them into the final last season when they strive to overcome a one-goal deficit against Neuchâtel Xamax. A 1-0 victory in Munich would suffice for the Bavarians who went down 2-1 in an exciting second-round, first-leg tie two weeks ago.

Neuchâtel's French trainer, Gilbert Gress, said: "We are clearly the outsiders and have a formidable task ahead of us."

The Belgian champions, Anderlecht, have more to fear from internal problems than the threat posed by Sparta Prague in their second-round, second-leg tie. Despite a 2-1 away win in the first leg, Anderlecht are worried about injuries and dressing-room arguments.

The main problem is how to encourage their Icelandic forward, Arnor Gudjohnsen, who was the top scorer in the Belgian first division last season, to perform at his best following a squabble with the coach, Georges Leekens.

Dynamo Moscow face a difficult task in recovering a two-goal deficit when they meet Barcelona in a UEFA Cup second-round second-leg tie. After their 2-0 defeat in Spain, Dynamo have no option but to risk everything in attack against a team who are slowly showing signs of recovery following the dismissal of their English manager, Terry Venables.

● BELGRADE: Five people were badly hurt when fighting broke out after a first division match in Rijeka, where Dynamo Zagreb were the visitors, at the weekend (AFP reports). Three of the injured were burned by cartridges fired from a starting pistol, one was badly cut by a broken bottle smashed over his head, while a young girl had her leg crushed against a barrier by the weight of the crowd.

● MUNICH: Bayern Munich signed the Algerian forward, Rabah Madjer, from Porto for Dm3 million (about £1 million) yesterday (Reuters reports). Madjer, who started for Porto in their European Cup Final win against Bayern last May, will join Bayern on a three-year contract starting next July.

BOWLS

Richards regains his touch

By Gordon Allan

Wynne Richards, a Welshman who plays for England, became the first player to advance to the quarter-finals of the CIS United Kingdom singles championship at the Preston Guildhall yesterday. In a match lasting nearly three hours, he beat Rodney McCutcheon, of Ireland, 7-6, 7-5, 7-3.

Richards, one of the most popular names in the game, took the first set by a hair's breadth. McCutcheon then squared the match while Richards lost his length to some extent, but in the third set the Irishman drove and missed once too often, allowing Richards, 1-5 down, to haul himself back into a lead of two sets to one.

By the time the fourth set was into its swing, Richards had fully regained his touch and, although, at 6-3, he missed an opportunity of drawing second wood for the set and the match, he made no mistake at the next end.

McCutcheon had beaten Stephen Rees, the holder, in the first round. Like Richards, he will be on his way to New Zealand at the end of next January for the world outdoor championships.

Late the previous evening, David Corkill qualified to meet David Bryant in perhaps the outstanding match of the second round. That will take place tomorrow.

Bryant did not play well in beating Michael Kent, of Wales, but it has been characteristic of Bryant, in innumerable championships over the years, that he begins indifferently — indifferently for him, at any rate — and yet goes on to win the final.

RESULTS: Second round: W Richards (Eng) vs R McCutcheon (Ire), 7-6, 7-5, 7-3.

HOCKEY

Britain shape up for the last chance

By Joyce Whitehead

Britain, with just one more chance to qualify for the Olympic Games, have named their final squad of 16 for the three-match play-off against the Soviet Union next month.

There is one change from the squad that played in the two qualifying tournaments in Edinburgh and Amsterdam. Jane Sixsmith, the young Warwickshire forward who brought a touch of brilliance to the England team in the European Cup at Pickett's Lock in September, takes the place of Gillian Messenger, the Scot, who is named with Julie Ellis, the Welsh goalkeeper, and Sue Williams as reserves.

The dates of the play-off matches have been changed to December 8, 10 and 12, while the Barcelona venue has not yet been confirmed.

All 19 players will train at Loughborough this weekend and at Coventry next; the number will be reduced to 16 for the last two weekends, at Bisham Abbey, before the party leaves on December 5.

SQUAD: B Hamby (Eng, capt), V McBride (Nir, vice-capt), J Ellis (Eng), V Bonia (Wales), G Brown (Eng), J Brown (Eng), M Chetaniam (Eng), J Cook (England), V Dixon (Eng), W Fraser (Scotland), C Jordan (Scot), M Macdonald (Scot), K Porter (Eng), A Ramsey (Scot), C Rule (Eng), J Sixsmith (Eng).

Cup switch

Billingham Synthonia and Halifax Town have agreed to play their FA Cup first round game on Saturday November 14 at Hartlepool United. The Northern League club have been told by the police that their ground does not conform to safety requirements.

Winchester recover to hit four

Schools football by George Chesterton

Westminster 1
Winchester 4

Despite crossing over one time, Winchester scored four goals in the second half at Vincent Square yesterday to give them a convincing victory. Westminster went quickly on the attack with short passes and after five minutes, but for a fine reflex save by Rogers they would have gone one ahead.

Westminster's goal came midway into the half from a cross by Cogan for Rice to head past Rogers. Despite giving away a succession of corners, Winchester went quickly on the attack with short passes and after five minutes, but for a fine reflex save by Rogers they would have gone one ahead.

To draw the scores level Winchester's first goal was a carbon copy of the one they had conceded. De Lanoy, midfielder, crossed the ball to head the crossing for Winchester soon went ahead for a hard left-footed drive by Lloyd from 25 yards. Winchester's third goal came from a shot by Burt from the edge of the box which tipped over the post. The fourth was scored by the substitute, Van Every.

WESTMINSTER: N Cheek, P Ellis, A Cole, P Francis, M Grogan, M Grogan, D Grogan.
WINCHESTER: C Rogers, W Lockett, G Baker, A Bosc, W Bosc, D De Lanoy, M Grogan, M Grogan, T De Westwood, O Okey-Wood (sub: T Van Every).

Referee: P Perkins (Wellington Barracks).

Hollins clears the air on Hazard transfer

John Hollins, the Chelsea manager, yesterday, emphasized that the midfielder player, Mick Hazard, wants to leave Stamford Bridge of his own accord and that he has decided to no longer require the former Tottenham player, aged 27, and that it has circulated his availability to other clubs.

Hollins said: "He is on the transfer list at his own request and that fact has been circulated to clubs for the past eight months. It's just reshaping an old story." Asked whether he wanted Hazard to stay, Hollins said: "I always give the same answer to that question — he has got two years on his contract left."

The Aston Villa forward, Lee Turner, has agreed to a £17,500 move to the third division club, Doncaster, and will make his debut at Barnsley tomorrow while Brent Boulter, described by Harry Redknapp,

the Bournemouth manager, as "the best player in American soccer", flies in from Miami today to join the second division club on a year's contract.

Boulter, aged 21, holds the American collegiate scoring record with 108 goals in four years. He was spotted by Redknapp when he made a guest appearance for Seattle at Bournemouth earlier this season.

Arthur Cox, the Derby County manager, who has been linked with some of the leading names in the game, yesterday signed an unknown teenager who could eventually cost him as much as £100,000.

Mark Patterson, aged 19, a right back from Carlisle, of the fourth division, has joined Derby for an initial fee of around £20,000, although the club could rise dramatically depending on League appearances and international honours.

Tanner dies aged 66

John Tanner, who died last week aged 66, scored one of the most important goals in the history of English amateur football (David Miller writes). He was also a potential future chairman of the FA before his recent illness.

Playing at centre forward for Preston, the combined Oxford and Cambridge universities' team, in front of a 100,000 crowd at Wembley in the 1951 Amateur Cup Final, he scored the second goal in a 2-1 victory against Bishop Auckland which established the reputation of an amateur club second only to the Corinthians. He scored in the semi-final replay against Southall which put Pegasus in the 1953 final, which he missed through injury.

Tanner's exceptional speed and opportunism, his ability to score in a tightly marked penalty area, was likened to that of great Corinthian centre forward, also from Charterhouse School, the legendary G. O. Smith. His career was broken by the war, during which he served in the Indian Army.

Shared award
Colin Murphy, of Lincoln City, and Alan Buxton, of Lincoln City, were both winners of the Football League club managers' share of the GM Vauxhall Conference manager of the month award for October. Buckley led Kettering to the top of the table with five wins out of six, while Murphy's side enjoyed six wins from seven matches.

Hughes on loan
Phil Hughes, the Northern Irish international goalkeeper, has joined Wigan Athletic on a month's loan from Bury.

Despite the comparative slowness of the balls on the Supreme court, the match, inevitably, became a two-horse race to see who could get to the net first. Annacoe is a notorious chip-and-charger but Cash often beat him to it and utilized the ball more effectively than his opponent. Although Cash dropped service at 5-3 in the second set, the best lob he produced all match helped him break back immediately for victory.

Leeds lose Rennie at Oldham

Leeds United will go into this evening's Littlewoods Cup third round replay at Oldham Athletic without their central defender, David Rennie, who has failed a fitness test on a groin injury. Leeds will therefore keep Peter Haddock at the heart of their defence alongside their captain, Jack Ashurst. Bobby McDonald plays at left back in place of the suspended Adams.

In another third round replay, Leicester City are likely to recall their Finnish international forward, Jari Rantanen, and their winger, Gary Ford, against Oxford United at Filbert Street. Rantanen has not played since damaging ankle ligaments on October 1 and Ford has been missing since September 23 with a torn thigh muscle.

In tonight's first division matches, Tottenham Hotspur will be without Chris Waddle (ankle injury) and Steve Hodge (calf muscle problem) for their trip to Portsmouth. The England international, who had withdrawn from Bobby Robson's squad for the match against Yugoslavia, could not be considered by Tottenham caretaker manager, Doug Livemore.

Portsmouth, however, have injury problems of their own. Malcolm Shotton, signed for £70,000 in September, is recovering in hospital after emergency surgery on a knee injury. With Noel Blake, Billy Gilbert and Lee Sandford also unfit, the Portsmouth manager, Alan Ball, must pair the inexperienced Kevin Ball with the former winger, Clive Whitehead, at the centre of his defence.

Waitt breaks leg
Mick Waitt, the former Notts County forward, is unlikely to play again this season after breaking a leg in two places in Saturday's GM Vauxhall Conference game between Lincoln and Barnet.

Seven policemen went onto the pitch to restore order after fighting broke out among the players. Barry Fry, the Barnet manager, was escorted from the pitch. Two Barnet players had been sent off earlier in the game.

Results, page 46

Dalglish keeps his men guessing

By Ian Ross

Such is the competition for places in the Liverpool team that Craig Johnston, who was yesterday called into the England squad for next week's European Championship game against Yugoslavia, is not guaranteed a game by his club tonight when they meet Wimbledon at Plough Lane.

After being dropped at Luton 11 days ago to make way for Andy's costly new import, Ray Houghton, Johnston was recalled in place of the ineligible Republic of Ireland international for the Littlewoods Cup tie against Everton last Wednesday and kept his place when the Merseyside teams met again on Sunday.

But with Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, again drawing a veil of secrecy over his selection plans by doing no more than announcing a 16-strong travelling party, Johnston, along with the rest of his team colleagues, must wait until shortly before kick-off before learning whether or not his services will be called upon.

Dalglish, a man who has, in the past, happily broken one of football's more enduring unwritten laws which decrees a winning side should never be changed, could well decide to shuffle his pack to combat

Conference match inquiry

The Football Association is to hold an inquiry into the violence that marked last week's GM Vauxhall Conference game between Lincoln and Barnet.

Seven policemen went onto the pitch to restore order after fighting broke out among the players. Barry Fry, the Barnet manager, was escorted from the pitch. Two Barnet players had been sent off earlier in the game.

Results, page 46

Bad news for Sunderland

Sunderland have been dealt a crushing blow with the news that Gary Bennett, their captain, will be out of action for another two months. A bone scan has revealed that the central defender, who has missed the last four matches, is suffering from a stress fracture of the fibula.

Injury-hit Portsmouth will be without Malcolm Shotton, their £70,000 central defender, for at least a month. Shotton, aged 30, who was signed in September to fill the vacancy caused by Noel Blake's knee injury, is in hospital recovering from an emergency knee operation.

He took a knock on the knee against Sheffield Wednesday last Saturday and was taken to hospital for emergency surgery

Loosemore advances

Sarah Loosemore, of Wales, kept British hopes alive in the LTA women's indoor tournament at the Telford Racquet Centre with a convincing 6-2, 6-3 second round victory over Sylvia Schenck, of the United States.

Throughout the match, which lasted just 72 minutes, Miss Loosemore always looked in command, keeping her stocky opponent on the run with some finely placed ground strokes. Miss Loosemore, aged 16, has reached the quarter-finals for

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Results, page 46

EQUESTRIANISM

Rider may lose medal

Berne (Reuters) — Christine Stuckelberger, the 1976 Olympic dressage champion, may have to return the bronze medal she won at the European championships in Goodwood last July, because the horse she last returned a positive test for rodo returned a positive test for rodo.

Federation (FEI) last month that both tests on the 12-year-old stallion, Gauguin de Lully, showed traces of Theobromine, a banned substance. Both horse and rider were disqualified. "Theobromine is a stimulant derived from the cocoa bean and must have been inadvertently mixed with the normal horse feed," Pezold said. He added that Ms Stuckelberger had two months to appeal and had indicated she would do so.

TENNIS: WIMBLEDON CHAMPION IS STILL STRUGGLING TO FIND FORM ON THE INDOOR CIRCUIT

Cash experiences first-round scare

Paris — Pat Cash survived a difficult first round in the Paris Open here at the Omnisport Palais when he defeated the American, Paul Annacoe, 6-4, 6-4 (Richard Evans writes).

Cash admitted being a little concerned before his match because, with some justification, Annacoe has a reputation as a player who causes upset. "If a seed doesn't get his eye in quickly Paul is just the sort of player who can beat you," Cash said.

Despite the comparative slowness of the balls on the Supreme court, the match, inevitably, became a two-horse race to see who could get to the net first. Annacoe is a notorious chip-and-charger but Cash often beat him to it and utilized the ball more effectively than his opponent. Although Cash dropped service at 5-3 in the second set, the best lob he produced all match helped him break back immediately for victory.

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Results, page 46

Eddery battles against the odds

By Ian Stafford

At lunchtime yesterday, Pat Eddery's chances of winning the jockeys' championship were virtually written off. Three behind Steve Caution and with less favourable mounts to follow, the bookies reckoned the title was all but decided. But, the way this battle has swayed from one contender to the other throughout the season, they really should have known better.

Eddery had, even by his own remarkable standards, a memorable day. If the atmosphere was warm at Lingfield Park on Monday, it was positively hot at Leicester yesterday. The reigning champion pulled off an outstanding 19-1 treble in answer to Caution's sole success and reduced the Kentucky Kid's lead to just one. Now, with four days to go to the finish of the Flat season, we really have a race on.

The bookmakers are still convinced Eddery, who has spent most of the season chasing large Caution leads, has left his charge too late. You can get odds of 100-30 against an Eddery success, and 2-1 on Caution to capture the title for the third time. The odds for a tie are 4-1. These may seem kind, but the championship has been shared only once this century, in 1923, when Charlie Elliott and Steve Donoghue both totalled 89 winners.

This great 1987 race for the championship



STEVE CAUTION 193 WINNERS
Winners yesterday: one - Count Nulin (4-6).
Rides today: five - Infanta De Castile (1.15 Edinburgh), Makila (1.45), Malachy (2.15), Mr Rose (2.45), Senator Snuggly (3.15).

PAT EDDERY 192 WINNERS
Winners yesterday: three - Highland Laird (7-4), Apple Rings (8), Festival Mood (8-4).
Rides today: five - Hopping Around (1.15 Edinburgh), Westfield Mover (1.45), Crown Justice (2.45), Daily Sport Soon (3.15), Valtaki (3.45).
(Four Flat racing days remaining)

could, however, be settled on the telephone. Both jockeys' books of rides will now be working hard and late in search of races for the remainder of the week. Caution relies on John Hammer, the gravelly-voiced BBC racing commentator, to find him the best rides possible. Eddery looks to his brother-in-law and manager, Terry Ellis. Both deny they are feeling the pressure.

"Steve has had 800 rides this season and if I

was terrified I made the wrong choice of horse each race, I would not survive the first week." Hammer admitted. "If I make a mistake, Steve will accept it."

"Of course, I want Steve to win but mistakes are bound to happen. I just pray they keep away this week. Even now I do not think I would get him on a horse for the sake of it. I try and work ahead as much as possible but this week is proving a different matter and is extremely important to us."

Terry Ellis agrees with all this. "Technically it is not too different from usual," he said. "If you do not try as hard from the beginning of the season, you will not find yourself in the position I am in now. But I can only get Pat what is going, and at this time of the season, especially under these circumstances, it is proving very hard."

Just as he did on Monday, Caution started yesterday's proceedings with a winner in the Hoby Maiden Stakes, on another Henry Cecil-trained horse, the 6-4 favourite, Nulin. Like a reprise of Lingfield, Eddery could only watch from afar as Caution extended his lead. And, again as on Monday, the Irishman hit back immediately with an emphatic success in the Barsey Selling Handicap. His ride, the 7-4 favourite, Highland Laird, won by eight lengths.

An hour later, Eddery scored a second win.

this time on the 5-4 favourite, Apple Rings, in the Tugby EBF Stakes. Caution found himself without a ride for the sixth and last race of the day.

"I got what I expected today," he said. "My reaction is the same as always. The situation is normal and we will both keep on going till the finish."

By the time Eddery had flashed past the winning post first in the Pynchley Stakes on the 9-4 joint second favourite, Festival Mood, Caution was speeding towards his home at Newmarket.

Judging by his brother Paul's remarks, Pat Eddery is set on keeping the championship. He is not in the mood to speak, just win, and his final win of the day, where he hung on grimly to score by half a length, suggests he is fighting harder than ever. "I have never seen him more determined to win," Paul Eddery, 10 years his brother's junior, said. "It will be a tremendous achievement if he pulls it off because he has had to fight against Henry Cecil, who has had a fantastic season with Steve. A lot of people wrote Pat off at the start of the season, but they misjudged his will to win."

Immediately after Eddery had finished his day's work at Leicester, Ellis sprinted to his Mercedes. "I have got to go home and do some work now," he shouted across the car park. "Steve is still favourite, but it came good for us today."

END COLUMN

Lament that calls for action

By John Goodbody

Britain's lament that it has lost influence in the administration of international sport has been heard. In true British fashion, a committee is being appointed to tackle the problem. In even truer British fashion, it has taken two years just to settle its composition.

Yesterday 103 Britons who serve on the committees of international sports federations heard, at a Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) seminar, that 20 people will serve on the British International Sports Committee, although not all the names were available and no date for the first meeting has been set.

The length of time it has taken for the committee to be established perhaps illustrates the recent lack of success of Britons in international sporting politics. There is a lack of co-ordination, and sometimes too much infighting between the British Olympic Association, the CCPR, and the Sports Council, as well as the varying points of view from the different Sports Councils for Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

Many foreigners, as well as many Britons, can understand neither the different organizations nor the problems of having four constituent countries of the United Kingdom, many with their own governing bodies, sometimes even in international federations.

With Britain also not being a member of one of the major power blocks, with some Third World countries viewing the Government's attitude towards South Africa with dismay, and with the enormous expansion of most international federations, this country has lost its formerly dominant role in sports politics.

Latin influence in the ascendant

Delegates yesterday recognized that the Latin nations, using a combination of shrewd alliances with the Communist bloc and the Third World, now not only hold most of the key positions but also influence the position of major events, such as the Olympics Games and the world championships. Men such as Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, João Havelange, the president of FIFA, and Primo Nebiolo, the president of the IAAF, have taken over the leadership of world sport from Britons like Sir Stanley Ross.

Sir Arthur Gold, who has just retired as president of the European Athletic Association, stressed that Britons had no divine right to be elected, but there was an absolute need to be respected. "Appeasement in the long run is never possible, and it is never wrong to stand alone if you believe it is right," he said. "It is a sentiment which earned him much support. But whether it would have got him votes in the world of international sport is, sadly, another matter."

Dick Palmer, the secretary of the British Olympic Association, stressed the need for Britain to sell itself simply by sending competitors, and coaches to Third World countries to help in sports development. It is hoped that the British Council, which has a budget for 1987-88 of £260 million, would be able to give a little more than the £25,000 it devoted last year to sport.



Man of England: Johnston, who almost chose Scotland last year, is named by Bobby Robson

Johnston wins an England call as Waddle pulls out

By John Goodbody

The Government will give about five per cent extra to British sport in the Olympic year of 1988, making the Sports Council's budget about £38.85 million.

The official announcement will be made by Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, in the House of Commons this afternoon.

I understand that Moynihan had to struggle to persuade the Treasury that a rise above inflation, presently running at four per cent, was needed, and that he was rewarded partly because half the increase will be directed towards action in the inner cities.

The Council funds many of British sport's governing bodies, and grant aids the National Sports Centres and the development of facilities, particularly in the inner cities.

The news was given by the Minister to John Smith, chairman of the Sports Council, and his two vice-chairmen, James Harris-Wait and Sebastian Coe, last night, and presents a modest success for the Minister and British sport after last year's freezing of the grant at £36.9 million.

A year ago, the Council made an unprecedented attack on the Government. Smith said that there had been a real cut in the grant aid of 3.5 per cent, making allowance for inflation, while Coe said that the decision would particularly affect the small community schemes and inner-city projects.

However, the Prime Minister made it clear after the General Election that work in the inner cities was a priority in her third term of office and sport could play a major role.

Craig Johnston, who nearly committed himself to an international future with Scotland last summer, was yesterday drafted into the England squad for next week's vital European championship match against Yugoslavia in Belgrade.

Johnston, Liverpool's versatile midfielder player, received his call-up from Bobby Robson, the England manager, after the Tottenham pair, Steve Hodge and Chris Waddle, were forced to withdraw through injury.

Hodge failed a fitness test on a damaged calf that has kept him out of Tottenham's last three matches and Waddle has been told to rest his troublesome ankle for up to 10 days.

Hughes discusses loan to Bayern Munich

Mark Hughes, who is out of favour at Barcelona but wanted by Manchester United, yesterday met Bayern Munich officials to discuss a possible loan move to the West German club.

The Manchester United manager, Alex Ferguson, yesterday confirmed his desire to bring Hughes back to Old Trafford, but said he understood that, aged 23, would not be able to return to England "until after the tax year ends in April".

Hughes, who cost Terry Venables - then Barcelona manager - £2 million when he was signed from Manchester United in June 1986, is still on a lucrative contract at Barcelona despite losing his place in

teams met again in a League match on Sunday but such is the competition for places at Liverpool that yesterday he did not know if he was in the side to play Wimbledon at Plough Lane tonight.

"He is a very experienced player," said Bobby Robson, who had pencilled in Johnston a week ago as a possible replacement for Waddle.

Robson, however, had not expected the withdrawal of Hodge, but at this stage does not intend to replace him. John Barnes, Johnston's Liverpool team-mate, has turned in some scintillating performances on the left wing since his arrival from Watford and Robson is banking on him coming through unscathed against Wimbledon. "If Barnes is fit, then I'll go with what we have got," he said.

Johnston, aged 27, was born in Johannesburg and brought up in Australia, where he played for Lake Macquarie and Sydney City before joining Middlesbrough in February 1978. After 64 appearances, he was transferred to Liverpool for a fee of £575,000 in April 1981.

He kept his Australian passport until April last year, when he became a British citizen. Despite having represented England at junior level, he found himself eligible for any of the home countries, and almost opted for Scotland in the week's leading up to the Mexico World Cup. After careful consideration he selected England.

England will qualify for next summer's finals in West Germany if they avoid defeat against the Yugoslavs.

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Foster can give England edge in attack

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Bombay

England and India, opponents in tomorrow's World Cup semi-final here at the Wankhede stadium, are well enough matched for them both to believe they have a good chance of victory. England have had the advantage of playing in the stronger of the two qualifying groups; India are at home, in conditions which they know better than England and will find less exacting.

India, the reigning champions, have won their last five matches handsomely: England have the confidence of knowing that when they were in India last, in 1984-85, almost exactly the same Indian side lost four of the five one-day internationals. India have a well-balanced attack, including two good slow bowlers; but so do England. Foster, by the way, is hoping to play. He bowled at the nets yesterday morning and will step up a gear today.

With Foster, England have the better fast, or fastest, bowling, particularly if Small has one of his "on" days. Only Emburey of the England attack has been more economical than DeFreitas. India have the more dashing batting, especially if Gavaskar finds the inspiration that he did against New Zealand last week. Gavaskar was feeling weak yesterday after running a temperature. There was no question of his missing the match.

Srikkanth, always a dangerous batsman, has become a sounder one through partnering Gavaskar. There was a time when they provided a sharp contrast, much as the acquisitive Vijay Merchant and the flamboyant Mushtaq Ali used to do. But now Gavaskar, too, has days when

he plays like a cavalier, as though he would like to be remembered for his versatility as well as for his amazing record.

Vengsarkar, Azharuddin and the new newcomer in the Indian side, the young Sikh, Navjit Singh Sidhu, have taken turns to shine in the qualifying matches. There has never yet been a great Sikh batsman, the only Test hundred ever made by someone in a turban having been Kripal Singh's against New Zealand over 30 years ago. Hopes are high that Sidhu will become the first. There is nothing more exotic in sport than a gifted Indian batsman feathering the ball down to third man or flicking it away off his toes, eye and wrist and footwork in perfect harmony.

Gatting is going to find the ball heading off in some unusual directions. It will be

hard work for England in the field. But the captain himself, Lamb and Gooch are all averaging over 50 in the competition and they, too, are looking forward to showing what they can do.

One only hopes that fielding first is not to be the overwhelming advantage that some with local knowledge are predicting. On the same pitch and against the same Indian bowling, Zimbabwe were 13 for four after half an hour's play in one of the earlier matches. There is talk of wind currents in this stadium helping the ball to swing prodigiously until the morning breeze dies down. I shall be happier to see India taking first knock tomorrow.

The younger generation of Indian cricketers fear no man now. But they have it drilled into them that Englishmen who play the game for a living

are not to be underrated. In theory this is a confrontation between two different cricketing cultures, between efficiency and flair, taking place in a Turkish bath. If the weather is getting gradually cooler and less humid, as it should be, it is not noticeable.

The occasion warrants a fine match, and unless the toss bestows an unreasonable advantage it should certainly be one. Yesterday long queues extended down Marine Drive, which runs beside the stadium, many having waited all night for the chance of buying a ticket. Outside the Taj Mahal Hotel crowds gather to catch a glimpse of the teams, something which has seldom happened since television became quite commonplace in Bombay.

World Cup averages and other reports, page 44

SPORT IN BRIEF

Belle Vue site sought

Supporters of Belle Vue and the local MP, Gerald Kaufman, will back moves by the Belle Vue promoter, Stuart Bamforth, to find a site for the speedway club in Manchester. This follows the announcement that Bamforth has been beaten in his efforts to keep speedway alive at Hyde Road with the purchase of the site by a car auction company.

Title defence

Milan (AP) - Sumbu Kalamboy, of Italy, will defend his WBA middleweight title against Mike McCallum, of the United States, in February.

Jansher third

Jansher Khan's world squash championship triumph has failed to move the young Pakistani player higher than third in the latest world rankings. His compatriot, Jahangir Khan, is ranked No. 1, while Ross Norman, of New Zealand, is No. 2, with the Britons, Phil Kenyon and Gwynn Brann, ranked ninth and thirteenth respectively.

Swim honour

The swimmer, Beverly Gull, aged 35, holder of one world and four national paraplegic records, has been awarded this year's Bill McGowan Trophy for the Disabled Sports Personality of the Year.

Jones waits

Dean Jones, the Australian Test batsman, is awaiting confirmation of an offer to play county cricket for Sussex next season.

English spoken here.

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Lawson up pi on R

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Nigel Lawson, has questioned the quality of the pound in the currency market. He has urged action to be taken to improve the quality of the pound in the currency market.

Interest rates were raised to a 9 per cent level. The Chancellor said that a fortnight.

In language of the Chancellor, the pound is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

The Chancellor said that the pound is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

Thatcher hard line for Europe. The Chancellor said that the pound is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

The Government's policy is to maintain a hard line on Europe. The Chancellor said that the pound is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

Industries are being encouraged to move to the south of England. The Chancellor said that the pound is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

Mrs Thatcher said that the pound is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

Australia is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

Self-employment is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

There is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

Portfolio Gold is a business. It is a business that has lost influence in the administration of international sport.

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